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OF
PREËMINENT AMERICANS

BY
FREDERICK G. HARRISON

WITH
One Hundred and Twenty Photograture Portraits.

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VOLUME III.

BOSTON
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JOHN BROWN.



THE character of few men in history has been regarded by different classes of people in so widely differing aspects, as that of John Brown of Ossawatimie. By his contemporaries he was either lauded to the skies, or detested as worse than an outlaw, according as his critic favored, or opposed, the principles underlying his renowned attempt to destroy American slavery. The calmer judgment of a later generation has modified both verdicts, with, indeed, a palpable leaning in favor of the man whose fearless courage has never been disputed. The sense of the utter injustice of enslaving a human being overwhelmed his judgment, and led him to attempt the impossible. It has been said that he was insane. Well might his brain reel, who had been an eye-witness of the barbarities committed in Kansas by slaveholders—barbarities at which Hun and Vandal would have paled. His execution was justly demanded by the offended law, for his crime against the security of society was of the first magnitude. It is objected that the crimes of his judges were greater than his. True they were, and verily they have met with more terrible retribution.

John Brown was born at Torrington, Conn., May 9, 1800. He was the son of a hard-working and God-fearing farmer, and the grandson of a revolutionary patriot, from whom he seems to have inherited that warlike spirit which showed

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itself in his old age, after a life of peaceful toil. He was educated in the rigid, puritanic school of morality, and in his character there were many points of resemblance to the austere Roundhead of Cromwell's time. To the faith in which he was brought up, he clung tenaciously to the last, and in this respect he held a position almost unique among the radical abolitionists of his day. When he was five years old, his parents removed into the western wilderness, and at Hudson, Ohio, the quiet lad grew to be a sober and industrious young man. He enjoyed few educational privileges beyond those of his own home. His father had adopted the tanner's trade, and John worked diligently with him. At the age of sixteen he was sent east to attend an academy at Plainfield, Mass.; but after a brief period he returned home.

In 1819, he left the paternal roof to establish a tannery of his own, and in the following year he was married to his first wife, Diantha Lusk. For the next twenty years he carried on the business of a tanner, farmer, and sheep-raiser, with profit, becoming a man of commanding influence among his neighbors. His large family was educated in the same religious and political beliefs as their father, and most faithfully did they follow his teachings. During this period John Brown several times changed his residence. In 1826, he moved to Richmond, Pa., and was appointed postmaster of that place during the administration of John Quincy Adams. This position he continued to hold, singularly enough, under General Jackson, although he had already begun to be quite prominent as an abolitionist. From this time forward the great aim of his life was the amelioration of the condition of the colored race, and his mind dwelt upon that single theme, until, to him, it overshadowed every other moral question of the time. In 1835, he returned to Ohio, this time to the town of Franklin. Here he caused trouble in the church by admitting negroes to his own pew,

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the custom being to restrict persons of color to the rear of the house. Two years later came the great financial panic, in which the Brown family suffered severely.

He gradually came to regard the extirpation of slavery as a mission committed to him personally. About the year 1839, he made his compact or family covenant against the national sin. His first wife died in 1832, and he married a second in the following year. In his two families he had twenty children, of whom the greater portion lived to maturity, and three of his sons lost their lives as he did, in the contest with slavery. In 1840, he returned to Hudson, a few years later removed to Akron, and, in 1846, in company with a gentleman named Perkins, he established a wool commission house at Springfield, Mass. His business here was not very successful, and, in 1849, he went to England with a large quantity of wool, expecting to realize better prices there than in Massachusetts. He remained abroad about two months, visiting France and Germany, and holding conferences with leading English abolitionists, to whom he broached some of his schemes for the liberation of the slaves, which were, however, quite coldly received. But his commercial speculation resulted in a very serious loss. His philanthropic schemes were interfering with his legitimate business, and he continued to devote himself more and more to his one idea, until it took entire possession of him, to the exclusion of all other concerns.

In the fall of 1849, he removed to North Elba, in the State of New York, where Gerritt Smith, a kindred spirit, had given a tract of land for the colonization of colored persons, Brown undertaking to superintend their education. Very little came of this well-meant attempt. At this time Brown had ten living children, and two of his sons were married. Of course, he lost no opportunity to aid escaping negro fugitives. In 1851, he again returned to Akron, O., where he was employed by his former partner as a farm

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overseer. He still continued to raise wool, and sent specimens of his products to the great London Exhibition in that year.

In 1854, the agreement between the friends and opponents of African slavery, by which that institution was prohibited in the "Louisiana Purchase" north of 36° 30', and outside of Missouri, after it had been respected for exactly a generation, was violated on the part of the slave-holders by the erection of the territories of Kansas and Nebraska, in which the actual settlers might ultimately decide in favor either of a free or a slave constitution. Emboldened by their success, the slave-holders now claimed the right to emigrate to the new territories with their human chattels, and that no one could interfere with that right, so long as the Territorial Government subsisted, and in this position they were sustained successively by the Pierce and Buchanan administrations in the National Government. But the friends of freedom at the North caught the alarm, organized Emigrant Aid Societies, and sent settlers by the hundreds into Kansas. The pro-slavery party quickly saw that they were being outnumbered, and hastened to form a State Constitution protecting slavery. As they were already in a minority, owing to the superior enterprise of the Free-soilers, their design could only be accomplished by fraud. For this purpose, large bodies of armed men, who quickly became known as Border Ruffians, were assembled in the neighboring slave State of Missouri, passed over into Kansas, and controlled the elections. Naturally enough the Free-soil party resented this high-handed invasion of their territory and their rights, and then followed the terrible Kansas outrages. Northern settlers were driven from their homes, their dwellings were burned, and they and their wives and little ones were hunted like wild beasts. The atrocities committed during that lawless period are without a parallel in any civilized land, and constitute a black page in our country's history which we would willingly forget.

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Among the emigrants who hoped to preserve the future State of Kansas for freedom, were four of Brown's sons. They, like their father, were by nature men of peace, and went comparatively unarmed. But they soon found that if they would retain their new possessions, they must defend them. Accordingly, they sent for their father, and, in the fall of 1855, he followed them, carrying with him an ample store of arms and ammunition. John Brown quickly assumed the position of a leader, for which he was eminently fitted. The details of the struggle in which he was engaged for the next year are too harrowing for relation. Suffice it to say, that in every action he displayed the courage of a hero with the skill of an accomplished military leader; but he was called upon to undergo severe trials, for not only was his property, and that of his sons, destroyed, but one of those sons was murdered by a pro-slavery parson, while two of the others were subjected to a shameful imprisonment. John Brown was not insane, but he was maddened by the cruel injustice of his enemies, and it is little wonder that under such circumstances he should come to regard himself as the chosen instrument to sweep the curse of slavery from the land.

Brown and his sons left Kansas in October, 1856. The following winter and spring were spent in visiting the principal Northern cities, relating the terrible scenes through which he had passed, and soliciting aid for the suffering settlers he had left behind; but, as he pondered upon his cherished plans, he became convinced that the proper place to strike his first blow against slavery was not in the plains of Kansas, where he could see that the Free-soilers must, in time, prevail, from force of numbers; but in the mountain fastnesses of Virginia, where a small band of brave men, like those led by Gideon of old, might perform wonders. He now began to prepare for his great undertaking. His plan, which, of course, recommended itself to no one of cool

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judgment, was to secure a stronghold for his little band, which he confidently believed would quickly gain additional force after his first success, and from this stronghold to sally forth and seize the wealthy planters, compelling the liberation of slaves as a ransom. In this way he fondly hoped to operate until every black was set free; and, though he met with little encouragement, even from the most radical abolitionists, yet he bravely persisted in his extravagant designs. He was obliged to make his preparations almost wholly at his own expense. During the year 1857, he collected stores of arms and a small body of men in Iowa, and these men he caused to be regularly instructed in the art of warfare. Among his military stores was a large number of pikes, which he considered would be more effective in the hands of inexperienced fighters than firearms.

In May, 1858, he went to Canada, where large numbers of refugees from slavery were to be found, several of whom he induced to join him. While there he formed his famous "Provisional Constitution," which he considered would give a shadow of legal right to his operations. A month later found him in Southern Kansas in a fortified camp, and here he began to put his plans into execution. In a sudden raid into Missouri, his party captured several slaves, taking, at the same time, sufficient property from their masters to compensate them for their past labor. These refugees were kept for a while in Kansas; but were not, of course, safe there, so Brown and his armed followers conducted them into Canada. It was a long and dangerous journey; but he finally had the satisfaction of seeing the entire party safe on free English soil. Great excitement prevailed in Missouri on account of this raid, and large numbers of slaves were removed from the Kansas border; some were sold South, and some few were fortunate enough to escape. John Brown's name was now famous; at the South it was execrated, at the North hailed with a halting and timid applause.

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He now became more guarded in his movements, and at length disappeared entirely from public notice. Mysterious rumors regarding him were rife; but gradually the excitement he had caused at the South began to subside. Late in June, 1859, he leased a farm with several buildings near Hagerstown, in Maryland, and here, with two of his sons, he collected the materials he had provided. For over three months he continued his preparations, so quietly as not to excite the least suspicion of his identity among the country people of the vicinity, by whom he was looked upon as a peaceful and estimable neighbor. The arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Va., was the point at which he decided to make his next attack, and the time was fixed for the 24th of October. Eight days previous to that time, when he had collected at his rendezvous only twenty-one men beside himself, he suddenly modified his plan, and determined upon an immediate descent on the village. He must inevitably have been captured, in the end, even if he had waited for all his force, and been successful at the outset; but his eagerness to engage in what he now regarded as his divinely appointed mission, quickly proved fatal to his cause.

On the night of the 16th of October, 1859, John Brown and his band quietly occupied the armory, and, on the following morning, captured a number of citizens, and seized the railroad bridge. He might even now have retired to his fortified retreat, with his prisoners; but his confidence in a general rising of the slaves led him swiftly on to his doom. By noon the Maryland and Virginia militia began to arrive, and escape was impossible. A desultory fight was kept up during the 17th, with loss of life on both sides. Two of Brown's party were taken prisoners and murdered. None of the prisoners taken by Brown were harmed in the least. The most intense excitement prevailed. Toward evening the remnant of the little band of insurgents took refuge in the engine house, and prepared to defend themselves to the

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death. John Brown's own demeanor throughout was heroic in the extreme. With one son dead before him and another dying in his arms, he gave his orders, and encouraged his men as calmly as if he were conducting the devotions of his family. During the night a body of United States regulars arrived on the scene, and by daybreak two thousand troops were thirsting for the blood of the misguided abolitionist. Still he refused to surrender, until, at length, the door of the engine house was forced open by the National troops, who rushed in and overpowered the four remaining insurgents, John Brown, who received a sabre cut and several bayonet wounds after he was disarmed, one other white man, and two negroes.

The people of Virginia, from their eccentric governor, Henry A. Wise, in whose disordered imagination existed servile insurrections, Northern rescues, war and bloodshed without limit, down to the meanest poor white who lorded it over his single black chattel, were for two months in a frenzy of excitement. Brown was removed to the jail at Charlestown, Va., under a strong guard, and there, on the 25th of October, his preliminary examination took place. During this and his subsequent trial he maintained that calm and dignified demeanor, which never deserted him, even to the end. Though weak, and suffering severely from his wounds, he was allowed no delay. He was indicted on the 26th, his trial opened on the following day, and, on the 31st, he was found guilty of treason, murder, and inciting slaves to revolt, and was condemned to death. His three companions, and three others, who were subsequently taken, suffered a similar fate to that of their leader. During the trial, and afterwards, through a committee of the National Congress, the slaveholders moved heaven and earth to obtain evidence implicating other Northern leaders in Brown's foolhardy schemes; but, to their great disappointment, not a particle of such evidence was ever found.

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John Brown was permitted to receive a visit from his wife on the 1st of December, and the next day he suffered death by hanging. His crime was expiated, and, though he realized it not, his great object was accomplished. His execution, though generally acquiesced in as strictly legal, except by the more extreme anti-slavery party, produced at the North a wonderful revulsion of feeling against slavery, which, only a few years later, rendered possible Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, and the Thirteenth Amendment. John Brown's remains were delivered to his friends, and interred with appropriate honors at his late home in North Elba.





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GEORGE BANCROFT.

From the portrait by Gustave Richter, of Berlin, bequeathed by
the historian to Harvard University.

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GEORGE BANCROFT.



GEORGE BANCROFT was born at Worcester, Mass., October 3, 1800. His father, a clergyman, who had, in his younger days, carried a musket at Lexington and Bunker Hill, was desirous that he should be educated for the ministry, and accordingly the naturally studious disposition of the lad was carefully encouraged. When eleven years of age he was sent to the Phillips Academy, at Exeter, N. H., that nursery of distinguished men, where he remained two years, entering Harvard when only thirteen. In 1817, he graduated with a good standing. Edward Everett, who was at that time in Europe, fitting himself for the duties of his Greek professorship at Harvard, suggested that another graduate be sent abroad to receive the benefits of instruction at the great German universities, preparatory to becoming a tutor. The suggestion was acted upon, and Bancroft was the fortunate man upon whom the choice fell. In the summer of 1818, he went to Europe and became a student at the University of Göttingen, where he entered upon a very comprehensive range of studies, including ancient and modern literature, European and Oriental languages, Natural History, and Greek Philosophy, under the direction of the ablest living teachers.

Mr. Bancroft possessed a vigorous constitution, well calculated to endure the strain imposed upon it by his severe mental application. He soon began to look upon the pro-

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spective Harvard tutorship as only a temporary expedient, and determined to devote himself to historical investigation and composition, to which object his whole course of study was made subservient. In 1820, having been made Doctor of Philosophy, he left Göttingen for Berlin, where, in spite of his extreme youth he met with a favorable reception from William von Humboldt, and for Heidelberg, where he continued his studies with the historian Schlosser. The closing portion of his four years' residence in Europe was given to travel, in the course of which we see this young man, who had barely attained his majority, holding familiar intercourse with such master minds as Goethe, Manzoni, Bunsen, and Humboldt. In May, 1822, he visited Lord Byron at his residence near Leghorn, and soon afterward returned to America.

He now taught Greek at Harvard for a year. He likewise made a few attempts at preaching, but quickly gave up all intentions of adopting the ministerial profession. In 1823, he established in connection with a fellow-tutor, a school for boys at Round Hill in Northampton, Mass., which attained great celebrity in its day. The institution was beautifully situated, and the boys, each of whom superintended the construction of a cabin for his residence, were contented and happy. The educational venture was a success in every way, except financially. Mr. Bancroft was connected with it for seven years, retiring in 1830. Two years later the school was abandoned. While at Northampton, Mr. Bancroft printed a volume of poems, wrote reviews of high literary merit, and published several educational works for the use of his pupils, and also began to write that history of his country which was destined to bring enduring fame to its author, and of which Edward Everett wrote, "It does such justice to its noble subject as to supersede the necessity of any future work of the same kind."

Politically Mr. Bancroft was a Democrat, while the greater

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portion, if not the whole of his family connections were Whigs, and it was out of deference to the feelings of these relatives that he declined the seat in the Massachusetts Legislature to which he was chosen, in 1830, by Democratic votes. In 1834, he published the first volume of the "History of the United States." So extensive and elaborate was his research, and so painstaking his composition, that nearly half a century was to elapse before he wrote the final chapters of his great work. For the three following years, Mr. Bancroft was a resident of Springfield, and during that time he completed and published a second volume. The history met with a very favorable reception from the reading public, and several editions were quickly disposed of.

While attaining distinction as a man of letters, Mr. Bancroft was likewise becoming prominent as a political writer in the interest of the Democratic party. He was honored by the approbation of President Jackson, and, in 1838, President Van Buren made him collector of the port of Boston. He held the office for three years, gaining a knowledge of commercial affairs which was of great value in connection with his subsequent career as a diplomatist. The third volume of his history, which appeared in 1840, completed the account of the colonization of America. In 1844, he was a candidate for the governorship of Massachusetts, and though defeated by his Whig opponent, Governor Briggs, he received a larger vote than had ever, up to that time, been given to any Democratic candidate for office in the Bay State.

When Mr. Polk made up his cabinet in 1845, Mr. Bancroft received the appointment of Secretary of the Navy. Through his orders the Californian ports were occupied by American naval vessels, and while acting temporarily as Secretary of War in 1846, he issued directions to General Taylor for an aggressive movement of the land forces, and so it will be seen that he bore a conspicuous part in precipi-

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tating the war with Mexico. His most important action, while at the head of the Navy Department, was the establishment of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. This institution was opened by his authority on the 10th of October, 1845. Mr. Bancroft retained his seat in the Cabinet for eighteen months, when he resigned it upon being accredited as Minister to the Court of St. James, which office he held during the remainder of President Polk's administration. While performing his public duties in the most satisfactory manner, he availed himself of the courtesies which were freely extended to him in England, to obtain, both from the public archives, and from private sources, a large amount of valuable historical material. After returning to the United States, in 1849, he took up his residence in New York City, and did not again hold office until after the close of the Rebellion.

He now devoted himself for some years almost exclusively to the great business of his life, and, between 1852 and 1860, published five additional volumes, covering the colonial period, and bringing his history down to Bunker Hill and the Declaration of Independence. He was loyal during the war, and delivered a eulogy upon President Lincoln, at the request of Congress; but he favored President Johnson's reconstruction policy, and accepted from him, in 1867, the appointment of Minister Resident to Prussia. It was fitting that the distinguished scholar and statesman should be selected to represent his government at the capital where his education had been finished, and it was considered highly complimentary by the Prussian Court. Mr. Bancroft, upon his arrival in Berlin, was received with unusual honors, both as a preëminent man of letters, and as the representative of a nation which had just demonstrated its strength by crushing the most formidable revolt in history.

Hitherto all European governments had denied the right of any of their subjects to renounce their allegiance and be-

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come citizens of the United States. Naturalized Americans returned to visit their native land, only at the risk of suffering arrest and being forced to perform military duty. The treaty with Prussia, by which that country agreed to recognize the rights of Germans naturalized in the United States, is a lasting monument to the diplomatic skill of Mr. Bancroft. Great Britain and other European powers hastened to follow the example set by Prussia, and entered into similar agreements, whereby the honor and dignity of our country was greatly enhanced. Mr. Bancroft continued to reside at Berlin for seven years as envoy successively to Prussia, the North German Confederation, and the new Empire of Germany which was established in 1871, and it was only at his own request that he was at length recalled, in 1874, by President Grant.

He returned to America at the age of seventy-four, and for ten years longer he was actively engaged upon his history, and in other literary work. A ninth volume had appeared in 1866, and the tenth was published in 1874, the two latter covering the period of the Revolution. Two volumes more, the story of the formation of the Constitution, in 1882, were followed two years later by a revision of the entire work, and then the hand of the venerable historian rested from its labors. During these closing years of his life his winter residence was in Washington, and his summers were spent at Newport, where he enjoyed the soft breezes of the sea in his beautiful villa with its famous conservatory of roses. Mr. Bancroft died at his home in Washington, January 17, 1891.



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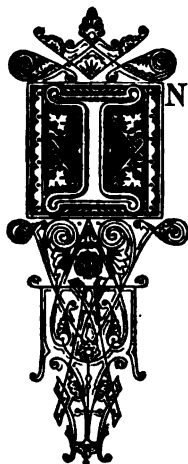


ROY WEN
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CHARLES GOODYEAR.

From a portrait kindly placed at the disposal of the publishers by
the Goodyear Rubber Company.

CHARLES GOODYEAR.



IN the middle of the sixteenth century, a wandering French portrait painter chanced to observe, in a nobleman's cabinet, some specimens of enamelled earthen-ware of great beauty and rarity, the products of some far-away eastern land. The process by which the beautiful enamel was produced was entirely unknown in Europe, and the painter was seized with an intense desire to discover the secret. It became his one absorbing ambition, and he diligently prosecuted his investigations to the exclusion of all other business. His family were neglected and destitute; he consumed his furniture and even the very floors of his cottage to heat his furnaces. After enduring the scorn and reproaches of relatives and neighbors for sixteen long years, Palissy the Potter triumphed, and received some measure of the reward which he so richly deserved.

A remarkable similarity appears in many points between the career of the persevering potter, and that of Charles Goodyear, the inventor of the process by which india-rubber is rendered fit for ordinary use. But while Palissy knew for a certainty that the object of his endeavors had already been accomplished, Goodyear, like Columbus, was sustained solely by his faith, and that in spite of the uniform failure of all preceding experimenters, and the general opinion that what he attempted was visionary and impossible.

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The peculiar tropical product called caoutchouc, or india-rubber, though in use by the natives of America when the continent was discovered, seems to have been almost unknown in civilized countries, except, perhaps, as ballast for sailing vessels, until about the year 1770, when its property of erasing lead-pencil marks was discovered. About 1820, a Scotchman, named Mackintosh, began to use it in the manufacture of water-proof fabrics, and the garments made from the material which he produced were called by his name, a name which has ever since been applied to similar articles. In the year 1820, a few of the rude, ill-shapen rubber shoes made by South American Indians found their way to Boston, and not long afterward a considerable cargo of them arrived, and found ready sale. It was soon discovered that they could easily be made here, from the gum, but at such an expense as to render competition with the imported shoes impossible. But these galoshes, as they were called, and all other articles made from the gum in its natural state, possessed great disadvantages; the cold weather rendered them stiff and unserviceable, heat reduced them to a sticky paste, or altogether destroyed them.

About the year 1831, the manufacture of various articles from india-rubber was commenced in the United States, and its success was, at first, extraordinary. In 1833, the first regular factory was established at Roxbury, Mass., and soon, all over the country, similar factories sprang up almost as if by magic. The new industry promised large profits, and caused a popular craze. Capitalists eagerly invested their money and confidently looked for large returns. But alas, the beautiful fabrics were entirely unsuited to the extremes of our climate. Goods manufactured in the winter, and stored away for future use, were melted by the July heats, and thousands of dollars' worth of property was thus destroyed. Garments of rubber, when exposed to the rigors of a New England winter, became hard, brittle, and valueless.

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One after another the manufacturers became bankrupt, stockholders were reduced to poverty, and the factories were closed, until, by 1836, every company had ceased to exist. It was in the year 1834, while the rubber industry was still dragging out a lingering existence, that it came under the notice of the man who was destined by heaven, as he came afterward to believe, to discover the means by which it was to be rescued from failure, and raised to its present importance.

Charles Goodyear was born in New Haven, Conn., December 29, 1800. His father was a manufacturer of hardware, and at this business Charles and his brothers were employed at an early age. Charles seems to have been a steady, quiet lad, with some desire to become a minister; but, fortunately, his father's inability to provide him with a college education prevented him from mistaking his calling. When seventeen years old he went to Philadelphia, and remained for four years in the employ of a firm of hardware merchants. He then became associated with his father, and the firm of A. Goodyear & Son prospered for a number of years. In 1826, they established a warehouse at Philadelphia, the first in the country to make a specialty of domestic hardware. Many of the articles which they made and sold were of their own invention, prominent among them the steel hay-fork, for which there was a very large demand. Charles Goodyear now married, and looked forward to years of happiness. Nothing of the kind was in store for him. The Goodyears, who were themselves scrupulously honest, appear to have supposed everybody else to have been the same, and so were not sufficiently careful in the matter of giving credit, and, in 1830, they found themselves unable to meet the demands of their creditors. Charles Goodyear's conscientiousness prevented him from taking advantage of the bankrupt law, and, during the next ten years of his life, he was frequently the inmate of a debtor's prison.

CHARLES GOODYEAR.

Charles Goodyear was naturally of an inventive turn of mind ; mechanical novelties were sure to be of interest to him. As the country was now in the midst of the excitement caused by the rubber fever, it was not unnatural that his attention should be called to that interesting material. He had, in fact, been for some years a student of its properties and uses, when, in 1834, being unemployed in the city of New York, he chanced to pass the salesroom of the Roxbury Company. He at once became interested in some life-preservers which were on sale there. Examining them closely, his genius was quick to perceive where a decided improvement could be made. Though recognizing at once the value of the suggested improvement, the agent informed him that it would be of little importance, unless some method could be devised for bettering the quality of the material, as the articles made from it were, from reasons already stated, rapidly becoming unsalable. Goodyear believed that such a method was possible, and immediately formed the determination that he would find it out. During all the remainder of his life he was constantly engaged in study and experiment concerning india-rubber, for he did not cease his efforts when he had at length made the discovery of the means by which it could be made heat, cold, and acid proof, but continued to exercise his ingenuity in devising new uses to which this most valuable material could be put for the benefit of mankind.

His first experiments were made in prison, where he had been placed by some hard-hearted creditor. After his release they were continued at his home, with the aid of no more convenient appliances than his common kitchen utensils. Absolutely without income, suffering frequently for food and other necessities of life, ridiculed by his acquaintances, dependent for his support and for that of his family upon what small loans he could make among his friends, he persevered without faltering or once losing faith in the final success of

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his efforts. He moved into the country to save expense, and disposed of his wife's jewelry and linen; to get means to pay his rent. He soon concluded that the gum in its natural state could not be successfully treated. The product of many weeks of his patient toil, beautiful indeed in design, melted into a shapeless mass in the heat of the summer sun. It was clear that some other ingredient must be added, and all the money he could beg or borrow was expended in the chemist's shops. In 1835, he fondly imagined he had found the desired mixture. A combination of india-rubber with magnesia, boiled with quicklime, produced such excellent results, that he was awarded a medal for the discovery by the American Institute, and he easily secured a partner with sufficient capital to commence operations in one of the old abandoned rubber factories on Staten Island. But this apparent return of prosperity was only a delusive dream. His material, though resisting heat and cold excellently well, was quickly rendered worthless by the application of acids. Then also came the financial panic of 1836, in which his partner's wealth was swept away, and the factory was forced to suspend operations, and the salesroom in New York was closed. Nothing daunted by this sudden dashing of his new-formed hopes, the "india-rubber maniac" as he was now frequently called, moved his family to Staten Island, and there he and his wife managed, for some time, to continue the manufacture of a few articles, and thus keep themselves from actual starvation.

Failing to find any one else in New York who had any confidence in his inventions, he next went to Roxbury, Mass. There was a large amount of money invested here in the extensive plant of the rubber works which was now lying hopelessly idle. Goodyear succeeded in demonstrating to the overseer of the factory the utility of his methods, and again he commenced business. For several years now, it seemed as if his trials were at an end. He was enabled once

CHARLES GOODYEAR.

habit of life had become so firmly fixed, that he could not live without experimenting. He published a book in which he enumerated several hundred distinct uses to which india-rubber was already put, and his ever-active brain, which he allowed no rest, was constantly evolving new ones. He was even in the habit of keeping writing materials at his bedside, that he might jot down new ideas which came to him in the watches of the night. Then again, he was tormented by law-suits. The decisions of the courts were in his favor, but he was powerless to prevent infringements. He spent several years in Europe, with no favorable financial results. He had very complete exhibits of his inventions and manufactures at London, in 1851, and at Paris, in 1855, receiving medals of honor at both places, and was also decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honor. Mr. Goodyear died in New York, July 1, 1860.





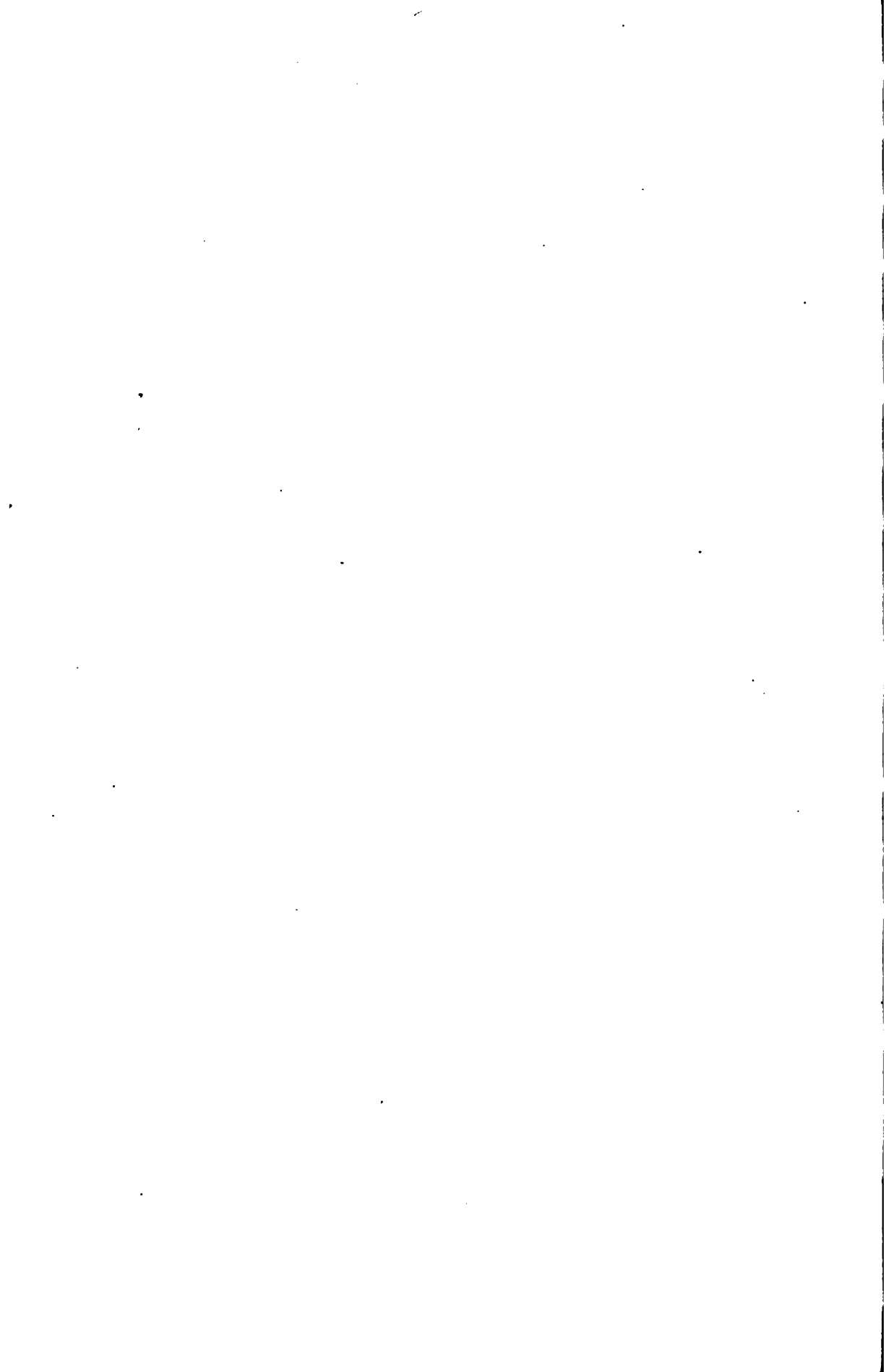
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ROY WEN
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WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

From a portrait in the possession of the Department
of State at Washington, painted during
Mr. Seward's Secretaryship.



WILLIAM H. SEWARD.



WILLIAM HENRY SEWARD was born in the village of Florida, N. Y., on the sixteenth day of May, 1801. He developed a somewhat precocious intellect, with an unusual fondness for study, which led him to reverse the usual order by running away *to* school, instead of *from* it. His preliminary education was received in the village school—not a very imposing institution in those days—and was supplemented by an academical course, after which he entered the Sophomore class at Union College, being then fifteen years of age. In 1819, he was engaged in teaching at the South, his graduation being thereby deferred for a year, and he was unfavorably impressed by his observations of the slave system, against whose encroachments upon free soil he took so determined a stand in his later years. After taking his degree, in 1820, he applied himself very closely to the study of the law for two years, at the end of which time he was admitted to the bar at Utica.

In 1823, Mr. Seward became a resident of Auburn, and entered into partnership with Elijah Miller, to whose daughter he was married in the year following. Fortunate family connections and genuine natural ability united to make his career a prosperous one from the first. No legitimate aid to popularity was neglected. He connected himself with the militia, and was chosen colonel. In politics he espoused the popular side, acting for some years with

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

the Democratic party, which then controlled the State and Nation, with practically no opposition. But the dominant party, invulnerable to external attack, fell a prey to internal dissention, caused by the unwillingness of a large portion of its members to submit to the dictation of the South in national affairs, and to that of Van Buren and the Albany Regency, in the affairs of the State. Mr. Seward's convictions led him to take sides with the discontented minority, and his first prominent position in politics was the chairmanship of a convention, held at Utica, in 1828, in favor of the reëlection of John Quincy Adams. His dignified bearing on this occasion greatly enhanced his reputation. He was nominated for Congress by the anti-Masons, but declined, and for a while persevered in the vain attempt to remain a Democrat and oppose Andrew Jackson. The election of General Jackson to the presidency caused the disruption of the Democratic party in Western New York, and Mr. Seward, with Weed and Fillmore, and others who became men of note, went with the anti-Masons, they being the only organized opposition to the democracy.

In 1830, Mr. Seward was elected, as an anti-Mason, to the State Senate, by a handsome majority. He took his seat in January, 1831, and held it, by repeated reëlections, for four years. Upon him devolved the leadership of the small but growing opposition, and the important task was ably performed. In the session of 1832, he made a speech on the Bank question, the effect of which was to powerfully strengthen the anti-Jackson party, now beginning to be known as Whigs. In the following year he put himself on record as an uncompromising enemy to treason in the form of nullification, and in June accompanied his father to Europe. The incidents of this tour were described in a very able and interesting series of letters to the *Albany Evening Journal*, of which his friend, Thurlow Weed, was editor. His service in the New York Legislature closed with

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

the session of 1834, in the fall of which year he received the Whig nomination, and more than the Whig vote, for governor, but was defeated. For the next year or two he was engaged as agent or arbitrator between a large corporation and its tenants, at the same time making, upon occasion, Whig campaign speeches, and contributing his full share to the triumph of that party in the State election of 1837. In the following year the Albany Regency was dethroned, and Mr. Seward was elected governor of New York.

The administration of Governor Seward compares favorably with that of any of the chief magistrates of the Empire State. His position at the outset was a trying one, owing to the insatiable horde of office seekers, who, in accordance with the established evil custom, expected a clean sweep of the Democrats from the power which they had held for half a century, and the supply of places was entirely inadequate to meet the demand. Among the more important events which occurred during his term of office, was the trial of the British subject, McLeod, in 1840, for complicity in the seizure of the *Caroline* by the Canadians which threatened to disturb the relations between England and America. Governor Seward was engaged in a controversy with the executive of Virginia, refusing the demands of the latter for the surrender of certain persons, who had aided in the escape of fugitive slaves, upon the ground that such an act was not a crime in New York, though it might be so by the law of Virginia. Mr. Seward was reelected governor in 1840, though like General Harrison in the same year, he was opposed by the third party Abolitionists, who cast twenty-five hundred votes in New York. He declined to stand for a third term, foreseeing that his party was doomed to defeat, owing to the defection of the Abolitionists, sixteen thousand of whom withheld their votes from the Whig candidate for governor in 1842, for no other reason than that Henry Clay, a compromiser with slavery, would,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

two years later, be the Whig candidate for President, and, consequently, when Mr. Seward returned to Auburn, as a private citizen, on the first of January, 1843, he resigned the governorship of the State into the hands of a Democrat, with whom, however, he remained upon the most cordial terms, as he did with all of his successors, governors of New York, of whatsoever party.

Six years of private life ensued, during which he attained great eminence as a lawyer, among his celebrated cases being the Cooper libel suit against the *New York Tribune*. He deemed the nomination of Mr. Clay an unwise one, as displeasing to the rapidly growing anti-slavery sentiment in the North; but, nevertheless, he worked hard to save him from defeat in the campaign of 1844, but in vain. He likewise took an active part in the campaign of 1848, making many speeches in New England and the Middle States, in favor of General Taylor. By a vote of one hundred and twenty-one to thirty, the New York Legislature in February, 1849, elected Governor Seward United States Senator, and on the 4th of March, he entered upon his brilliant career as a legislator and statesman, which was to cover the most exciting twenty years of our national history; as a legislator during the period of the supremacy of the slave power, as a statesman during the period of its downfall.

Mr. Seward was a member of the Senate for two terms, or twelve years. During all but the last three months of that period the slavery question was the one absorbing topic of public interest. Three months before he left the Senate for the cabinet, the misled people of South Carolina took up arms against the Government, and the question, "Shall we have slavery?" gave way to the still more momentous one, "Shall we have a country?" The part taken by Senator Seward in debate, in the course of the great controversy, was one of marked prominence. He made a firm and noble stand against all compromise with wrong, and no

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man exerted a greater influence in moulding Northern sentiment, and awakening the people to a sense of their danger. In a speech in the Senate, March 11, 1850, he made his famous allusion to a "Higher Law," which furnished the advocates of freedom with one of their most memorable watchwords.

In 1854, the Know-Nothings, or Americans, in the New York Legislature combined with the Democrats to prevent Mr. Seward's reelection, and their non-success was an occasion of rejoicing to the friends of free soil and free speech all over the country. In February, 1856, the opponents of the extension of slavery into the Territories met at Pittsburg, and effected the national organization of the Republican party, with which party Mr. Seward became immediately identified and acted during the remainder of his life. He was proposed as its first presidential candidate; but he withdrew his name before the balloting began at the Philadelphia Convention, in June, 1856, at which Mr. Frémont was nominated. After the defeat of the Republicans in November, 1856, Mr. Seward rapidly gained in popularity, until it appeared to be a foregone conclusion that he would receive the nomination in 1860. His departure for Europe, May 7, 1859, and his arrival home eight months later, after an extended tour in Europe and the East, were made occasions of grand public demonstrations in his honor. During his absence had occurred the abortive attempt of John Brown, and his execution. Sadly to their disappointment, the Congressional Investigating Committee were forced to clear Mr. Seward of all complicity with that unfortunate affair.

The second National Republican Convention was held at Chicago, on Mr. Seward's fifty-ninth birthday, May 16, 1860. Three ballots were taken for a candidate for President. On the first two, Mr. Seward led, on the third Mr. Lincoln was nominated. The former cheerfully acquiesced in the decision of the convention, and soon entered into the

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campaign with ardor. After visiting the Eastern States, he made a vigorous canvass through the Northwest, making elaborate speeches in which he predicted the speedy triumph of Republican principles, and proceeded as far South as St. Louis, where he was respectfully listened to by an immense audience composed for the most part of his violent political adversaries. As soon as Mr. Lincoln's election was assured, he offered Mr. Seward the position of Secretary of State, which was accepted.

Mr. Seward assumed charge of the State Department, March 5, 1861, and he managed its affairs with consummate skill for eight years, in the midst of difficulties such as have never been experienced by any other incumbent of the office, before or since. In December, 1862, when the responsibility for the defeat of the National troops at Fredericksburg was charged upon the Administration, an impertinent Senatorial caucus demanded that the President should reorganize the Cabinet. Thereupon Mr. Seward tendered his resignation which was promptly rejected by Mr. Lincoln. On the evening of the 14th of April, 1865, at the moment that the assassin Booth fired his fatal shot, another wretch entered the residence of Secretary Seward, and attempted to kill him while he was lying helpless from accidental injuries received a few days previously. The Secretary's son, and First Assistant, Frederick W. Seward, was likewise attacked, and more seriously injured than his father. The man Payne, who committed these assaults, having failed to accomplish his ultimate purpose, made his escape, but was soon apprehended and fully identified, and suffered death with the other conspirators.

Mr. Seward negotiated forty-four treaties with foreign nations, all of them important, but among which we will notice only three; that with Great Britain, in 1862, providing for the suppression of the slave trade, that with Russia, in 1867, by which the United States acquired the immense

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

territory of Alaska, and that with Denmark, in 1868, for the purchase of the Island of St. Thomas. The latter treaty, although accepted almost unanimously by the people of St. Thomas, was rejected by the Senate of the United States. He displayed profound statesmanship in so dealing with the governments of Europe, as to prevent them from aiding the Southern insurgents, and, at the same time, to maintain unimpaired the national honor and dignity. In accordance with the principles of the Monroe Doctrine, he insisted upon the withdrawal of the French troops who were supporting the Imperial government of Maximilian in Mexico, and he demanded reparation from England for the damages caused to American shipping by the rebel cruiser, *Alabama*, which had been fitted out by her subjects. The French troops evacuated Mexico, in March, 1867; but the negotiations with England were still unfinished when Mr. Seward went out of office. He supported President Johnson's reconstruction policy, and was strongly opposed to his impeachment.

In March, 1869, Mr. Seward became once more a private citizen, and the remainder of his life was spent in travel and in literary work. Soon after leaving Washington, he made a journey to Utah and California, and visited Alaska, to see for himself the valuable territory which was acquired for his country through his sagacity, at the rate of two cents an acre. Later in the year he went to Mexico, where he resided for three months at the expense of the grateful people of that country, whom he had befriended in the time of their trouble. In the fall of 1870, he set out on a voyage around the world, which has been charmingly described by his adopted daughter. His seventieth birthday was celebrated while he was in Egypt. After his return to his home at Auburn, in October, 1871, he occupied his time in preparing his autobiography which was left unfinished by the death of its distinguished author, which occurred October 10, 1872.



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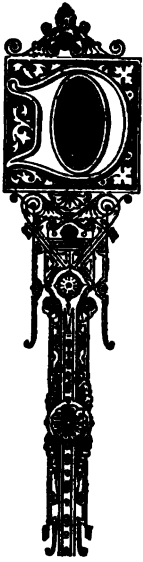


ROY WEN
CLERK
VASSAL

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

From life.

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.



DAVID GLASGOW FARRAGUT was born at Campbell's Station, not far from Knoxville, in Tennessee, July 5, 1801. The earliest years of the future admiral were spent in a frontier settlement, exposed to the attacks of Indians; but the Farragut family subsequently removed to New Orleans, the father, who was a native of the Island of Minorca, having entered the naval service of his adopted country. When David was eight years of age his mother fell a victim to the yellow fever, and he was adopted by Commodore Porter of the United States Navy, who most faithfully performed the duties of a guardian for his young ward. Farragut was taken to Washington and placed at school, at first in that city, and afterward at Chester, Penn.

In December, 1810, not being yet ten years of age, he was appointed midshipman, and after receiving some preliminary instruction at Newport, R. I., he was ordered to sea with his guardian who had been assigned to the command of the famous thirty-two gun ship, *Essex*, which sailed from the Delaware, October 28, 1812, on a cruise which lasted some two years, and which was rendered memorable by the most exciting and romantic incidents.

Failing to fall in with Commodore Bainbridge's squadron, the *Essex*, after capturing one valuable prize, rounded the

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

Horn, February 14, 1813, and entered the Pacific. After meeting with a cordial welcome from the authorities at Valparaiso, Porter again put to sea, and during the ensuing summer effected the capture of twelve British whalers and merchantmen, freighted with cargoes of great value, one of which prizes was placed in command of Midshipman Farragut. With a fleet of captured vessels the *Essex* made her way to the Marquesas Islands, where during their two months' stay, officers and crews mingled freely with the natives, aided one of the tribes in a war against their neighbors, and left many of the dusky belles heartbroken at their departure in December. On March 28, 1814, the *Essex* was attacked off Valparaiso by a superior British armament and forced to strike her colors. This was Farragut's first battle, and he was not again to witness bloodshed for forty-eight years. After the young prisoner's return to the United States he spent another year at school at Chester. He received honorable mention in Porter's report, but was too young for promotion.

During the next five years Farragut made three voyages to the Mediterranean and pursued his studies for some time at Tunis, where he also learned the Arabic language. In 1823, he was ordered to the West Indies in command of the *Ferret* to protect the American shipping in those waters against the ravages of Cuban pirates, and upon his return he married his first wife, a lady of Norfolk, Va., which place was for many years, subsequently, his residence, when not engaged in active duty. He was an efficient and highly accomplished officer; but during these uneventful years of peace, no opportunity offered in which to display his extraordinary abilities which in more stirring times would have entitled him to rapid promotion.

He was commissioned lieutenant January 23, 1825, and was one of the officers of the frigate *Brandywine*, which bore Lafayette back to France after his famous visit to

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

the United States. After a winter at Gibraltar, and in other European ports, he returned home in May, 1826. For the next fifteen years his domestic life was saddened by the continued illness of his wife, the object of his constant solicitude as a devoted husband, and his unwearied attention as a faithful nurse. Fortunately, his official duties permitted him to remain at home for the greater part of the time; his sea service being confined to two South American cruises, and one in the Gulf of Mexico. In 1829, being on the Brazilian station in the *Vandalia*, Lieutenant Farragut was presented at Court, and witnessed the celebration in honor of the Emperor's second nuptials. While again on the same station, in 1834, in command of the *Boxer*, he was present at the coronation of the youthful Pedro II., who, after a long and useful reign, was dethroned in 1889, and died in exile in December, 1891. In November, 1838, while commanding the *Erie*, he observed the bombardment of San Juan de Ulloa in Mexico, by the French.

In the long intervals of inaction, Farragut was employed sometimes in teaching the boys on the receiving ship at Norfolk, sometimes at carpenter-work at which he became quite an adept. He was first lieutenant of the *Natchez* when she was sent, in January, 1833, to overawe the Charleston Nullifiers. The officers and crew were on good terms with the inhabitants, and rendered valuable assistance in preserving property during a disastrous conflagration. In December, 1840, Mrs. Farragut died.

On the 9th of September, 1841, Lieutenant Farragut was promoted to the grade of commander, and, in the following November, again sailed for South American waters. In June, 1842, he was assigned to the *Decatur*, and this was his first independent command with full rank. The cruise ended early in 1843, and then followed another four years spent in receiving-ships, on court-martials, and in general navy-yard duty. In December, 1843, Farragut re-

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

married. Upon the breaking out of the Mexican War, he applied for a ship, and, in 1847, was sent to Vera Cruz in command of the *Saratoga*; but owing to some real or fancied slight received from the commodore, Matthew C. Perry, his relations with that famous commander became unpleasant, and he obtained leave to return with his ship, and was made second in command at the Gosport Navy Yard. He was now engaged for some years in the study of gunnery, and assisted in compiling the Code of Ordnance regulations.

In 1854, he desired to be detached for the purpose of observing the course of the Crimean War; this request was not granted; but he was ordered to California, to take charge of the new Navy-yard at Mare Island, and on September 14, 1855, he received his captain's commission. After four years spent on the Pacific coast, he again returned to the East, and his last service previous to the Civil War was in the Gulf of Mexico, of whose treacherous coasts he gained an intimate knowledge destined to be of great value to him and to his country. In 1859, he was in New Orleans, where he attended the funeral of a brother, little knowing that within two years he would have the Crescent City at the mercy of the guns of his fleet.

When the War of the Rebellion opened, and Virginia was forced to secede by her political masters, David G. Farragut determined without hesitation, to "stick to the flag," under which he had served without reproach for half a century. Thereupon he was given to understand that his presence would no longer be tolerated in Norfolk, and, turning his back on treason, he found a new home near New York City. He had been for some time a member of the Naval Retiring Board, and several months elapsed before he was assigned to more active duty; but in December, 1861, he was summoned to Washington, and received that which for more than fifty years had been the goal of his ambition, the command of a fleet. He became commodore of the

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

Western Gulf Squadron, with orders to coöperate with General Butler in the capture of New Orleans, and the opening of the Mississippi. About the middle of April, 1862, his fleet, the largest which had ever been assembled under the American Flag, entered the river. Twenty-five miles from the mouth, were Forts Jackson and St. Philip, which the rebels confidently relied upon to protect New Orleans from an attack by water. After six days' bombardment, Farragut resolved to pass these formidable works, which daring feat he accomplished on the 24th in the face of a galling fire in his flag-ship, the renowned *Hartford*, accompanied by thirteen other steamers and gunboats, Commodore Porter, the lately deceased Admiral of the Navy, who was the son of Farragut's adoptive father, being left behind with a flotilla of mortar-boats, to complete the reduction of the forts. The civil authorities of New Orleans sullenly submitted to Commodore Farragut on the 26th, the rebel troops having "skedaddled" after destroying more than eight million dollars' worth of property. On the first of May, the city was turned over to the tender mercies of General Butler.

In June, 1862, Farragut ascended the river with his gun-boats, and attempted to demolish the batteries at Vicksburg; but they proved too strong, and it was reserved for General Grant to accomplish this undertaking a year later. On the 16th of July, Farragut's name was placed first in rank upon the roll of the Navy, and he was commissioned Rear-Admiral. For the next year he was chiefly engaged upon the Mississippi, in obedience to his orders to "clear the river through." March 14, 1863, his fleet attacked Port Hudson, and the *Hartford* and one other ship succeeded in running the gauntlet of batteries, four miles in extent. Upon this occasion and subsequently, he was accompanied by his son, who acted as a signal-officer. After the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson had re-opened the great river to navigation

DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

throughout its whole course, Admiral Farragut made a short visit to the North, where he was received with the acclaims of the people as a conqueror.

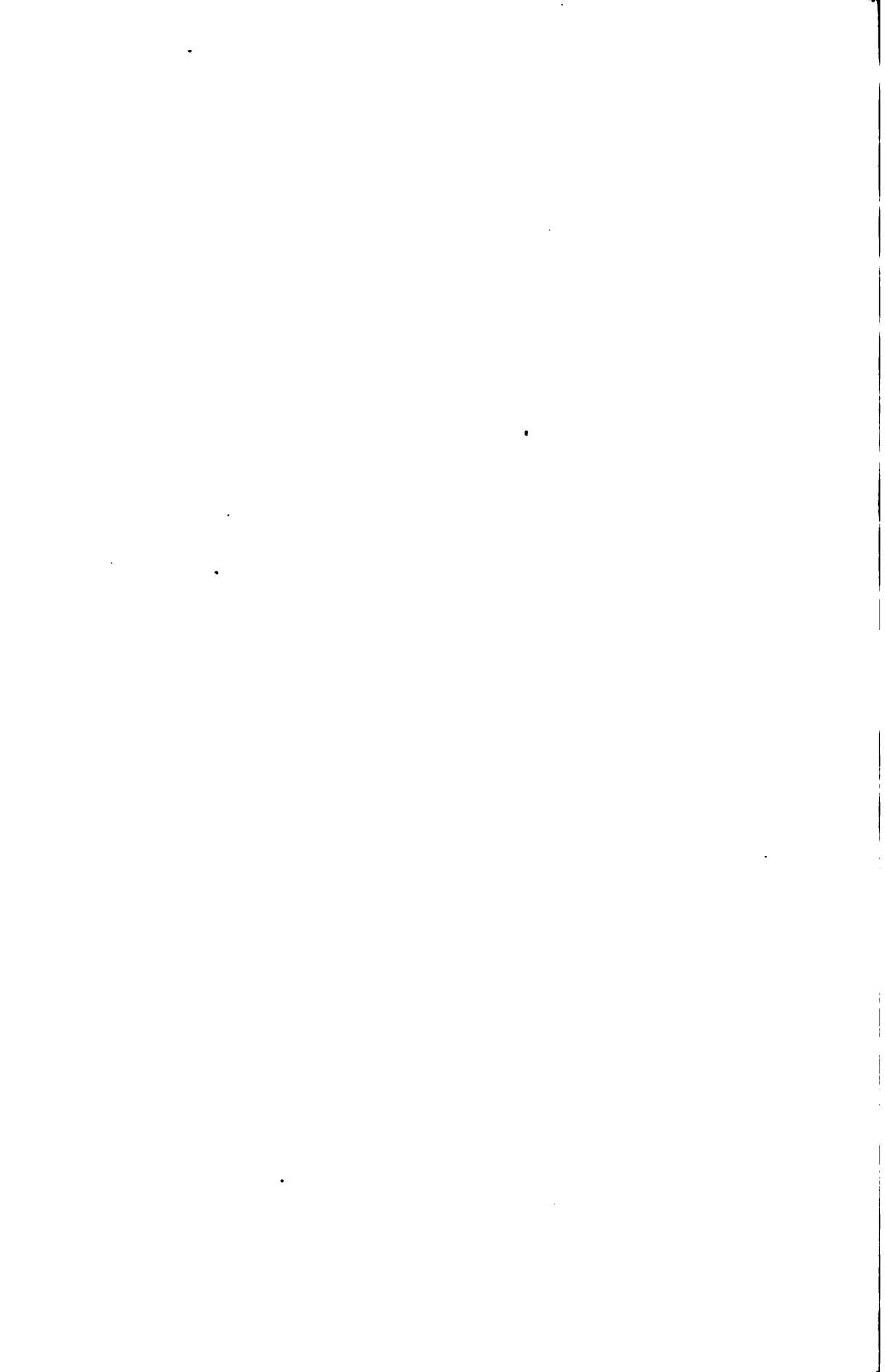
In January, 1864, he again proceeded to his command in the Gulf. The only ports now open to blockade runners were Wilmington in North Carolina, and Mobile in Alabama. The closing of the latter port had been a favorite scheme with Farragut, ever since his victory at New Orleans; but it had not hitherto met with favor from the authorities at Washington. Having at length received the requisite orders, he proceeded to Mobile Bay, with eighteen vessels, four of them iron-clad, harbingers of a new era in naval warfare. Two forts guarded the entrance. On the 5th of August, Farragut's fleet passed between them, amidst a storm of death-dealing shot, and attacked the rebel gun-boats. All the world knows how the old veteran gave his orders during the thickest of the fight, lashed to the shrouds of the *Hartford*. The artist's pencil and the poet's pen have made the gallant action immortal. The enemy's fleet was quickly defeated, and their admiral wounded and taken prisoner. One of the forts surrendered three days later; but the other, Fort Morgan, did not succumb to the combined attack of the fleet and the land forces until the 23d. Not long after this signal victory, failing health compelled the Admiral's retirement. In December he was welcomed in New York with a public ovation, and was presented by the citizens with a purse of fifty thousand dollars. Congress created the grade of Vice-Admiral, and the President conferred it upon the hero of the Bay Fight.

Admiral Farragut was holding a temporary command on the James River, when the rebellion collapsed. Two days after the fall of Richmond he visited that city, and shortly afterward paid his respects to his old neighbors at Norfolk. In July, 1866, having previously received from Congress a special vote of thanks for his victory at Mobile, he was

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raised to the grade of Admiral, and in the following year assumed command of the European Squadron. Forty years and more had elapsed since his last visit to these waters; then he was an obscure lieutenant, now he was the foremost naval commander of the age, and was everywhere accorded the most distinguished honors. One very pleasant incident in his almost royal progress was his visit to the home of his ancestors in the Island of Minorca, where he was enthusiastically welcomed by the entire population. The rule of the Ottoman government excluding war-ships from the Dardanelles, was relaxed in his favor, a courtesy never before shown to a person who was not of royal birth. Admiral Farragut returned to America in November, 1868, and during the ensuing summer visited the Pacific coast. He died on the 14th of August, 1870, at the residence of the Commandant of the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, N. H., having reached the age of sixty-nine years, of which sixty had been spent in the service of his country.







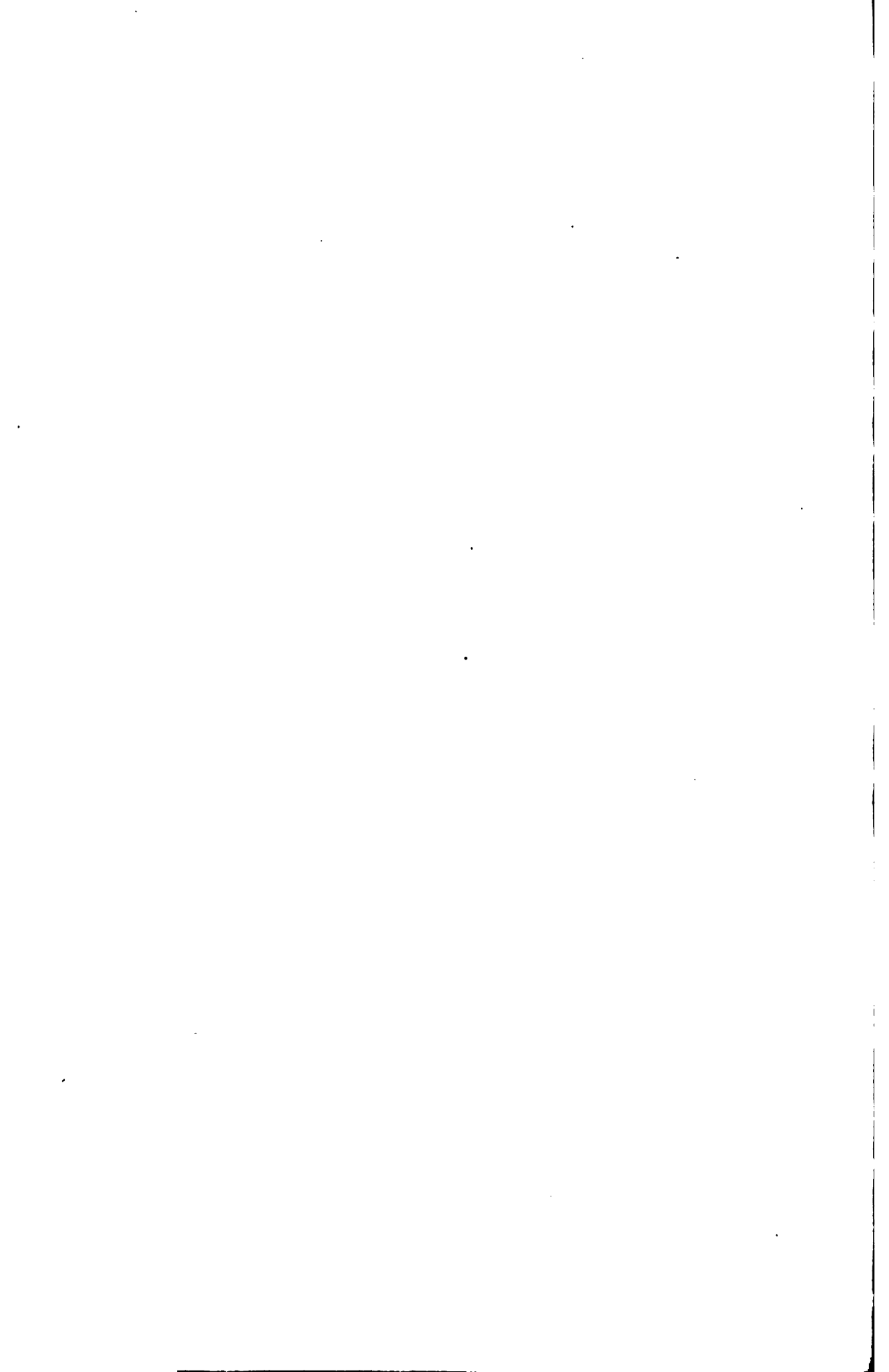
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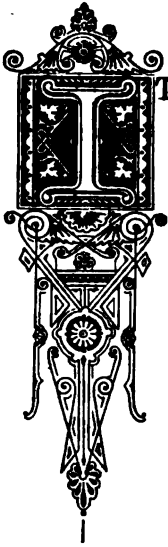
ROY VAN
ALLEN
VAN ALLEN

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

From life.



RALPH WALDO EMERSON.



IT has been very pertinently remarked by an English writer, that "Emerson has dealt severely with his biographers" by living a life singularly devoid of incident. Volumes have been written, and will probably continue to be written about his works and his influence; there is no end to the speculations and criticisms concerning his teachings; but his wonderful reputation rests wholly upon what he wrote and what he said; what he did was commonplace in the last degree. This preëminent American Philosopher, Sage, Oracle, Dreamer — call him what you will — was born in Boston on the 25th of May, 1803. His father was a Unitarian divine of some prominence, but of small means, who died in 1811, leaving a widow who was forced to open a boarding-house in order to obtain means to support her five boys. Ralph, who was the second of these boys, had been put at his books at a very tender age, but had made slow progress at first, as his father complained that he had not learned to read very correctly at the age of three. At ten he entered the Boston Latin School, and he had at that time already developed a talent for making verses. Four years later he became a student at Harvard, defraying his expenses by performing various services for the president and the more favored scholars, and he graduated in 1821.

Upon leaving college, he engaged as assistant in a school

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

which had been established by his elder brother, and assumed sole charge of the institution when his brother went to Germany to complete his studies. He was quite successful as a teacher, and by 1825, he had acquired sufficient means to enable him to enter the Cambridge Divinity School, there to prepare himself for the ministerial profession, which had been embraced by several generations of his Emerson ancestors. His studies were interrupted by sickness and other causes, and before they were completed he was "approbated to preach," receiving his license October 10, 1826, and preaching his first sermon at Waltham, five days later. The following winter and spring were spent in the milder climate of Florida, after which he returned to Cambridge. Early in 1829, he was ordained assistant minister of the Second Church in Boston, and soon became sole pastor through the resignation of his colleague. In the fall of this year he was married to Ellen Tucker, a lady of great beauty, but extremely delicate, and in February, 1831, he was left a widower. About a year after this bereavement, he found that he could no longer conscientiously give his approval to the few lingering traditions of orthodoxy to which his congregation still clung, and dissolved his pastoral relation, which he never again resumed, although he continued for some years to preach occasionally. Henceforth it was as an essayist and lecturer that he continued his teachings, which, although ever inculcating the purest morality, were in other respects widely divergent from those of the great majority of the Christian Church.

On Christmas Day, in the year 1832, Mr. Emerson took passage in a sailing vessel, for the south of Europe. After passing the spring months in sunny lands, he turned his steps toward Britain, where he sought the acquaintance of kindred spirits, chief among these being Carlyle, with whom he formed a lasting friendship. He returned to America in October, 1833, and now began his long career as a public

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

lecturer. His writings, though appreciated by few at first, came in time to be read by a wide circle of admirers, and in the lyceum he never lacked a cultured audience, whether his profundities were wholly intelligible to his hearers or not. For two years he lived with his mother, at first at Newton, and afterward at Concord, in the famous "Old Manse," built by his grandfather. After his second marriage in 1835, he purchased a house in the same village. Concord ever remained his home, and one never hears the name of the poet or the town without instantly associating the one with the other.

Emerson's first publication of note, his "Essay on Nature," appeared in September, 1836, and almost simultaneously he assumed the leadership of a small coterie of like-minded thinkers, who elaborated the philosophical system known as Transcendentalism, difficult to define, but which may perhaps be characterized as an exaltation of reason at the expense of revelation and authority. His views as defined in his Address to the graduating Divinity class at Cambridge, July 15, 1838, met with unqualified condemnation from the more orthodox portion of the community, and many of the Unitarian pulpits were closed against him. *The Dial*, a periodical which was the organ of the Transcendentalists, was established in 1840 under the editorship of Margaret Fuller, better known as the ill-fated Marchioness Ossoli, who was succeeded two years later by Emerson himself, by whom it was conducted until its demise in April, 1844. His second series of Essays was published in the latter year, the first having appeared in 1841; they were followed in 1847 by a volume of Poems. These works being reprinted in England, gave the philosopher-poet a transatlantic reputation.

Mr. Emerson's home life at Concord was one of ideal beauty, though saddened by the death of his first-born son, a boy of five, in 1842. He took a lively interest in town

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affairs, and was esteemed as the best of neighbors. Simple in his tastes, he was a generous host, and his house became in time the Mecca of men of letters and culture, as well as of reformers of all shades, to whose theories Emerson listened courteously, without himself becoming a fanatic on any question. His chief support for many years was derived from his lectures, which necessitated at times long journeys and extensive tours, but he always rejoiced to be back in the quiet home at Concord.

Having received invitations to lecture in England, Mr. Emerson visited the mother country a second time, in the autumn of 1847. He was kindly received, and addressed many attentive audiences, both in London and in the provinces. He returned from England in July, 1848, full of pleasant recollections of his trip, which formed the theme of several lectures, and of a book, "English Traits," published in 1856. A collection of miscellanies (1849), the essay on "Representative Men" (1850), and that on the "Conduct of Life" (1860), complete the list of his prominent works down to the time of the war. Emerson's position on slavery was a conservative one, as long as conservatism remained a virtue. Even as late as 1850, after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law, he said to the people of the South, "We will never intermeddle with your slavery, but you can in no wise be suffered to bring it to Cape Cod or Berkshire." Subsequent events caused him to turn his sympathy strongly toward abolitionism; John Brown was received at his home, and he contributed of his means to aid in suppressing the Kansas horrors. The period of the civil war brought financial reverses to Mr. Emerson, which were, however, retrieved by the careful management of his son-in-law; but his voice and his pen were ever ready with words of encouragement and cheer for the defenders of his country.

About the year 1870, Mr. Emerson's powers began to show

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signs of failure. He perceived it himself before any one else, and had hinted at it in his poem, "Terminus," in 1866. "May Day" was published in 1867, his essay on "Society and Solitude" in 1870. Harvard College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, in 1866, and during the two following years he was a member of the Board of Overseers of the University. For many years he had allowed himself little, if any respite from his physical and mental toil, and it was with a view to restoring, if possible, his waning energies, that he was induced, in 1871, to make a pleasure trip to California. This journey was keenly enjoyed by Mr. Emerson, who was an ardent lover of nature, and proved quite beneficial; but the partial destruction of his house by fire, July 24, 1872, and the consequent fever induced by his exposure on that occasion, caused a return of his infirmity, which during the remainder of his life manifested itself in a gradual failure of his memory. He did not, however, entirely cease his literary activity for several years yet, though obliged to depend to a considerable extent upon the assistance of others. After the fire his friends generously contributed over sixteen thousand dollars for the rebuilding and refurnishing of his home, and another thousand was added to enable him to give relief to his shaken nerves by another voyage to the Old World. Accompanied by a daughter, he sailed in October, 1872, and proceeded as far as Philæ on the Nile. With health improved and spirits renewed, he spent the following spring among his English admirers, and returned once more to his beloved Concord, in May, 1873, being received by his fellow-townpeople with heartfelt expressions of joy and welcome.

In 1875 he received the compliment of five hundred votes for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University, and was beaten by Disraeli by only two hundred votes. About the same time he was elected an associate of the French Academy. More and more rapidly his memory became

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obscured, and he was frequently at fault for a word to express his ideas, yet he attended the semi-centennial of the Unitarian Church at Concord, N. H., in 1879 — it was within one day of the fiftieth anniversary of his own first wedding, which had taken place in that church — and as late as 1881, he addressed the Concord School of Philosophy, with some aid from one of his family. The preparation of his last book, "Letters and Social Aims," was superintended by his friend and literary executor, James Elliot Cabot. It was made up for the most part from former lectures, for it was peculiarly characteristic of Emerson that his writings abounded in fine passages and striking aphorisms, which, like gems, were equally beautiful when taken from their old settings and placed in new ones. New England's most distinguished man of letters died on the twenty-seventh day of April, 1882, only a month after Longfellow, her greatest poet.





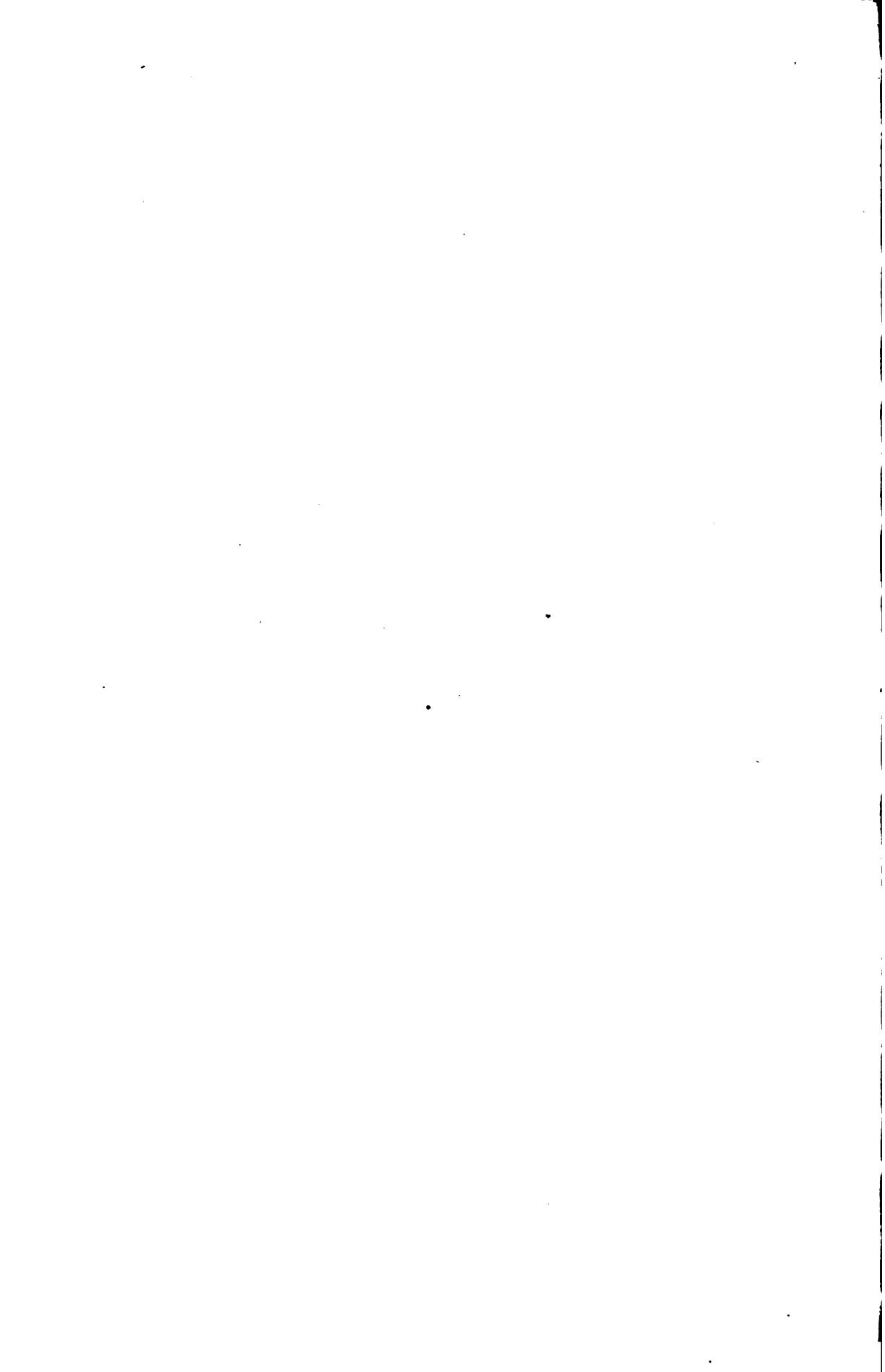
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NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

From a sketch in the possession of the publishers.



NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.



NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE (or Hathorne, the *w* being a fancy of the novelist's own) was born at Salem, Mass., July 4, 1804. His father, a sea captain, having died abroad when the son was only four years of age, the boy's education was cared for by a maternal uncle. He manifested a taste for reading while quite young, and began to invent stories of his own.

He seems to have been a cheerful boy, joining heartily in the sports of his companions, except when an unfortunate accident, rendering him for a time a cripple, confined him to the house. Not until his fourteenth year, during the temporary residence of the family in a new settlement on the shores of Sebago Lake, in the State of Maine, did he begin to acquire his "cursed habits of solitude." After about a year he was sent back to Salem to continue his studies under a tutor, but he was left largely to his own resources during his leisure hours, and so developed the solitary and unsocial disposition which clung to him through life. He amused himself for a while with a little weekly journal which never got beyond the manuscript stage. At seventeen he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me., from which he graduated in 1825, in the same class with the poet Longfellow. Not much can be said with regard to his college life, except that his English compositions were admirable. He calls himself an "idle student," and was upon one occasion fined half a dollar by the faculty for playing cards.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

After leaving college he returned to Salem, and for the next ten or twelve years lived a very retired life in his mother's house. Occasionally he made excursions to the White Mountains, to Niagara, and elsewhere, and being a fine and sharp observer of men and things, he found material for many a tale in these journeys. He appears never to have had any definite aim in life, beyond putting his thoughts upon paper. Any other kind of work was irksome. And so he dreamed and lived along into middle life, without trade or profession, but possessing a rare imaginative faculty, writing much, publishing some of his work, with little or no profit, but destroying much more in fits of despondency. His first publication, "Fanshawe," he disowned in his later years. But though meeting with little success, he wrote on with a dogged perseverance. For a short time in 1836, he filled the uncongenial position of editor of a Boston magazine, from which fiction was carefully excluded. Finally, in 1837, he collected his best work into one volume, under the title of "Twice Told Tales." So little was he known, and so little were his writings valued by the public, that he could not find a publisher willing to take the risk of bringing the book out, and it was only accomplished at last by the kindly aid of sympathizing friends; but he was fortunate in securing the favorable notice of his friend Longfellow for his venture, and after this his writings gradually worked their way into popular favor.

His literary labors yet afforded him but a scanty income, when George Bancroft, the historian, then collector of the port of Boston, appointed Hawthorne as weigher and gauger in the Boston Custom House. The duties of this office, though far from being agreeable, were performed faithfully from the early part of January, 1839, until General Harrison became president in 1841, and then Hawthorne gladly yielded his place to the needy Whig who had to be provided for. The pecuniary benefits of the position were very

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welcome to the author, and he found sufficient leisure time to complete another series of tales, which were published under the title of "Grandfather's Chair." Soon after leaving the employ of the Government, he joined that company of transcendental socialists who had established, near Boston, the once famous, but long since forgotten "Brook Farm." The cultured members of this community pleased themselves with the idea that a little work would provide for their physical needs, and then they could devote the greater part of their time to study or contemplation. But they soon made the sad discovery that even to gain a bare living called for a greater amount of labor than was agreeable to persons of such refinement. Hawthorne, himself, having arrived at the conclusion that labor is brutalizing, abandoned the experiment after about a year's trial, in the course of which he had sunk the thousand dollars which he had laid aside while in the Custom House.

In July, 1842, Hawthorne married Miss Sophia Peabody of Salem, and for the next four years made his home at Concord, Mass., where he had rented the old Emerson parsonage to which he gave the now well-known name of the "Old Manse." This was one of the most pleasant periods of his life. His romances, abounding in scenes and incidents drawn from the history and life of New England, steadily gained in popularity, but did not yet sufficiently provide for the support of his family, and he was glad to accept another Government appointment when his party returned to power, for Hawthorne, while despising politics, called himself a Democrat. In March, 1846, through the influence of Mr. Bancroft, now in the Cabinet, he was made surveyor of the port of Salem by President Polk. The story of his life in the Salem Custom House, and of his queer, old-fashioned associates, is most delightfully told in the introduction to his "Scarlet Letter" — the most original and most successful of his novels, which he published in 1850, shortly after he

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was released from the drudgery of the surveyorship by being again rotated out of office by a change in the administration.

The profits from the sale of the "Scarlet Letter," and a generous donation from some of his friends (which he considered as a loan and afterwards repaid) compensated him for the loss of his official income. In July, 1850, he settled with his family at Lenox, Mass., and there continued his story writing, his literary reputation being now thoroughly established. Early in 1851 he published "The House of the Seven Gables." In the following November, he left Lenox, and took up a temporary abode at West Newton, writing while there the "Blithedale Romance," founded upon his Brook Farm experiences. The summer of 1852, saw the Hawthorne family (now including the three children) back in Concord, in a home of their own, purchased from Bronson Alcott, to which they gave the name of "The Wayside."

One of Hawthorne's college associates, and his life-long friend, was Franklin Pierce. When the almost unknown New Hampshire statesman received the Democratic presidential nomination in 1852, he requested Hawthorne to prepare a sketch of his life, for use as a campaign document. Hawthorne, who well knew that Pierce, if successful, would find an office for him, complied with the request. Whatever may be thought of the merits of the production, it is certainly a loyal tribute to a friend. Pierce was elected, and Hawthorne's reward was the most dignified consulate in the gift of the Government—that at Liverpool. He sailed for Europe with his family in June, 1853, and entered upon his Consular duties in August. The next four years were passed in the dull routine of official business, and constitute a blank in his literary life; but the emoluments of his office placed him above any fear of want for the rest of his life. He resigned his office in June, 1857, and spent the remainder of

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that year travelling in England. He then proceeded to the Continent, where he resided for a year or more, chiefly at Rome and Florence, and resumed his pen after it had been idle for five or six years, to commence the last of his three greatest novels, "The Marble Faun." It was published in March, 1860, after he had again returned to England.

The Hawthornes came back to their home at Concord in July, 1860, after an absence of seven years. The author was eager to make up for lost time, but from various causes he was hindered in his work. The state of his health, affected unfavorably by his European residence, the tumults of civil war, the criticisms excited by the lack, real or imaginary, of patriotic tone in his sentiments as expressed in his later writings, and the unfavorable reception in England, of his last completed work, "Our Old Home," combined to make him grow more and more melancholy. Early in 1864, he attempted a Southern trip, but the shock caused by the sudden death of his travelling companion, W. D. Ticknor, in Philadelphia, hastened his own end. In May, his faithful friend, ex-president Pierce, although just bereaved of his own wife, planned an excursion for Hawthorne to the White Mountains, and, taking him under his care, started with him on the journey. On the eighteenth they stopped for the night at Plymouth, N. H.; on the following morning Pierce found that his friend had ceased to breathe. Nathaniel Hawthorne was dead.





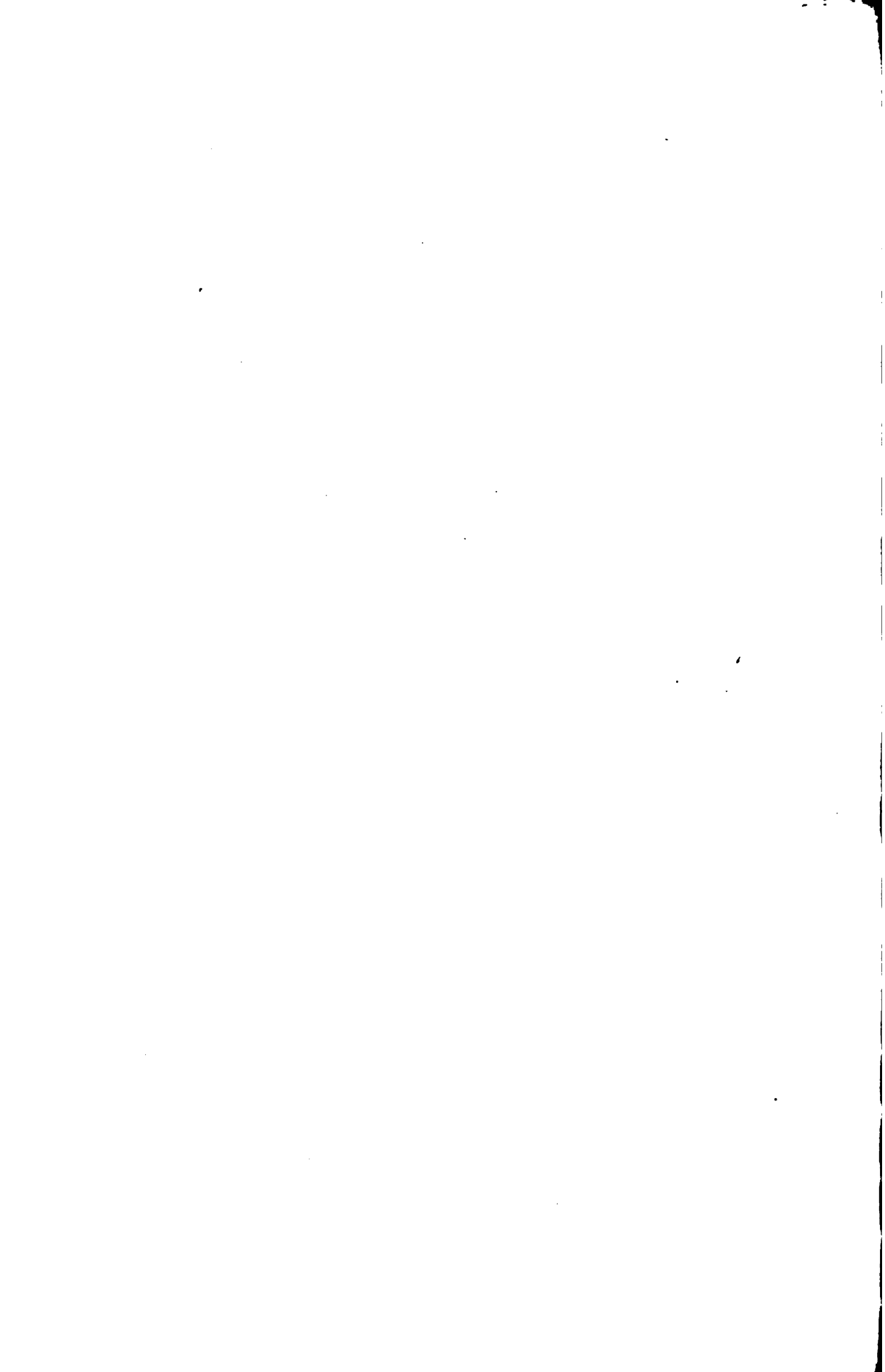
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FRANKLIN PIERCE.

G. P. A. Healy. Corcoran Gallery.



FRANKLIN PIERCE.



FRANKLIN PIERCE, the son of a revolutionary veteran and Democratic politician of note, was born at Hillsborough, N. H., November 23, 1804. We search in vain among the meagre records of his youth for any indication of more than an ordinary genius. He attended the academies of Hancock and Francestown with no premonitions that capricious Fortune would one day confer upon him her most splendid gift, for whose possession scores of men of more brilliant talents were to spend their strength in vain. He entered Bowdoin College in 1820, one year in advance of his renowned friend, and only biographer, Nathaniel Hawthorne. For two years his standing remained very low, but by making extra exertions during the remaining two years, he was enabled to graduate, in 1824, among the first in his class. His law studies were prosecuted at Portsmouth, N. H., and at Northampton and Amherst in Massachusetts. He was admitted to the bar in 1827, and began his professional life in his native town. In the same year his father was chosen governor of New Hampshire, which of course smoothed the path of the young lawyer toward political preferment. The year 1828 witnessed a change in the direction of the weather-vane of politics in the Granite State, but it veered around all right again in 1829; Benjamin Pierce was once more chosen Governor, and his son, Franklin, was sent to represent Hillsborough

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

in the legislature, where he served for four years, the two latter in the Speaker's chair. His courteous manners and marked self-possession enabled him to discharge the duties of a presiding officer to the general satisfaction of all.

Franklin Pierce was sent to Congress in 1833, and remained an inconspicuous member of the lower house during the next four years, after which he was elected to the National Senate. Possessing some merit as a debater, his course, both in the House and in the Senate, was marked by unswerving devotion to his party, and blind obedience to the behests of the pro-slavery leaders, and that tells the whole story. In 1834 he was married to a daughter of ex-President Appleton of Bowdoin, and after 1838, he made his home in Concord. In that city, upon his retirement from the Senate by voluntary resignation, in 1842, he resumed the practice of his profession, meeting with excellent local success, but acquiring no national reputation.

Meanwhile he declined all civil preferment, even the governorship of his State; but, in 1847, in response to President Polk's call for soldiers to serve in the war against Mexico, he promptly enlisted as a private. Hardly had he been mustered in, when he was appointed to the colonelcy of one of the ten new regular regiments, and close upon this honor followed his further advancement, in March, to the rank of Brigadier-General. He arrived at Vera Cruz, June 27, 1847. General Scott had proceeded as far as Puebla on his triumphant march toward the Mexican capital, and was resting there during the unsuccessful negotiations for peace. Three weeks elapsed before the brigade under General Pierce could be got in motion toward Puebla. He was constantly harassed on the march by Mexican guerillas, who picked off every unfortunate soldier who chanced to stray from the American ranks, but he met with little or no organized resistance. He effected a junction with the main body of the army on August 6, and on the following

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day, General Scott began his advance upon Mexico. During the action at Contreras on the 19th, Pierce's brigade was ordered to make a feint upon the enemy's centre, while another detachment attacked them in the flank. Owing to delay on the part of the flanking party, the fighting in the centre became quite spirited. The ground was rough, and covered with bowlders and sharp stones. Pierce's horse stumbled and threw him, so that he fell, nearly insensible, and sustained a severe injury to one of his knees. Notwithstanding the pain, he persisted in remaining with his column. During the action at Cherubusco on the following day, he fainted from pain and exhaustion, but refused to be carried from the field.

Santa Anna having begged for another armistice, General Pierce was appointed one of the commissioners to arrange for it, at Tacubaya, August 21st. After waiting two weeks, General Scott perceived that the Mexicans were violating the truce, and ordered an advance. Pierce was with his brigade at Molino del Rey, but during the action at Chapultepec he was unable to leave his bed. He entered the captured capital with the victorious army, and remained there until December, when he returned home, to be enthusiastically received as a hero, by his fellow-townsmen. As soon as peace was declared, he resigned his commission, and retired to private life. He displayed during the nine months of his service, more than ordinary ability as a commander, and was highly esteemed by both officers and men.

Mr. Pierce's attitude on the question of slavery was perfectly satisfactory to the South. The compromise measures of 1850 received his hearty support, and he dutifully opposed the Free-Soil wing of his party. He was chosen, almost without opposition, as president of the New Hampshire Convention for the revision of the State Constitution, in the fall of 1850, and again proved himself an accomplished presiding officer. In June, 1852, the Democratic

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National Convention, finding it impossible to agree upon any one of the leading aspirants for the presidency, nominated General Pierce on the forty-ninth ballot. His Whig opponent was his late commander-in-chief, General Scott, who received only forty-two electoral votes, while General Pierce received two hundred and fifty-four. It was the rare good fortune of the unknown subordinate not only to obtain a larger electoral vote than any previous candidate (it has only once since been exceeded) and to defeat the world-renowned warrior, but also to so totally demoralize the Whig party that it never again made a presidential nomination. Two months after his election, he suffered a severe blow in the death of his only son, who was killed in a railroad disaster near Lawrence, Mass. The president-elect received the heartfelt sympathy of his fellow-citizens of every party. Franklin Pierce took the oath of office as President of the United States, March 4, 1853, upon a platform of pine boards which had been especially brought from New Hampshire for the purpose.

In his inaugural address, President Pierce asserted that no change should be made in the status of the slavery question during his administration. Without doubt he was honest in making the promise, but he failed to keep it. The South demanded further concessions. They demanded the erection of the two territories of Kansas and Nebraska, giving the inhabitants permission to decide whether they should or should not establish slavery when they should form State governments. This permission, which nullified the Missouri Compromise, forbidding slavery north of $36^{\circ} 30'$, was incorporated into the Kansas-Nebraska Bill in 1854, which received the assent of the President, forgetful of his promises, who by thus surrendering to the South, alienated even his own State. The resentment felt by the majority at the North, resulted in the formation and rapid growth of the Republican party. During the subsequent conflict in Kansas,

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the Missouri ruffians received Mr. Pierce's sympathy and official recognition, while in a message to Congress, he characterized the peaceable settlers from the free States as rebels. The "Crime against Kansas" was a dark blot upon his administration, and, unchecked, it was left to descend, like an evil legacy, to that of his successor. A tract of land known at the time as the Gadsden purchase, and now included in Arizona and New Mexico, was bought from Mexico in 1854.

The domestic policy of Mr. Pierce's administration was vicious; but in its foreign relations, its course was much more commendable. In June, 1853, a Hungarian refugee named Koszta, a naturalized citizen of the United States, having been seized by the Austrians at Smyrna and confined on board a man-of-war, the commander of an American frigate made a demand for his surrender, and when he enforced his demand by promptly clearing his decks for action, the refugee was released. This action, being approved of by the United States government, tended to increase the respect shown to the American flag abroad. On the 31st of March, 1854, a treaty of commerce was signed with Japan, negotiated by Commodore M. C. Perry, one of the first steps toward the civilization of that progressive nation of the East. During the course of the Crimean war, the British minister at Washington, and several prominent British Consuls, were found to be engaged in enlisting Americans to serve in the English army, and after a long and unsatisfactory correspondence with the British government, the offenders against the neutrality laws were given their passports. The recognition of Walker, the filibuster, as President of Nicaragua hardly pertains to the department of foreign affairs, as it formed a part and parcel of the great scheme for the extension of slavery, which Mr. Pierce did everything in his power to aid.

At the Democratic National Convention of 1856, Mr.

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Pierce was a candidate for renomination, and his Southern friends stood by him for several ballots, when his name was withdrawn, and Mr. Buchanan was nominated. After the close of his administration in March, 1857, Mr. Pierce made an extended foreign tour, not returning to America until 1860. The remainder of his life was passed in strict retirement at Concord. He held entirely aloof from politics, and had no sympathy whatever for President Lincoln as he guided the great struggle against treason. As a private citizen, Mr. Pierce was a universal favorite. Ever ready to aid those who were in distress, his kindness and generosity were proverbial. He died October 8, 1869.





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HIRAM POWERS.

From an original owned by the publishers.

HIRAM POWERS.



THE pyrotechnist, after displaying a succession of blazing rockets, bursting shells, and brilliant wheels, occasionally varies his entertainment by lighting a simple colored fire, which resting humbly on the ground, burns quietly and is hidden from the view of a majority of the spectators. But at the same time it spreads a bright halo all around, whose steady radiance is very pleasing when contrasted with the previous flashings and whirlings and explosions.

In a similar manner the biographer, after presenting to his readers a succession of soldiers and statesmen, whose lives were crowded with incidents of dramatic interest, is sometimes called upon to consider the career of a man no less preëminent in his sphere than they in theirs; but who passed through life more quietly, and whose fame rests rather upon the productions of his genius than upon any brilliant performances. Such were some of the historians and poets, and such was Hiram Powers, one of the earliest and most distinguished of American sculptors.

He was born in Woodstock, Vt., on the 29th of July, 1805, and lived there until he was fourteen years of age, when his father, despairing of being able to provide for his large family on a New England farm, removed with them to what was then the far West, the State of Ohio, and settled at Cincinnati. The father soon died, leaving the emigrant family destitute. Thrown thus entirely upon his own re-

HIRAM POWERS.

sources, Hiram showed that he possessed those qualities which go to constitute the self-made man; willingness to labor, determination to succeed, and promptness in embracing any opportunity that might offer for bettering his condition. With these characteristics he combined the rarer ones, unlooked for in one of his birth and education, of an artistic taste, and a mechanical and inventive genius. Ever on the alert to turn an honest penny, he was at length put in charge of a reading room in a hotel, by an elder brother, who had attained to the editorship of a local newspaper. The enterprise did not prove to be a paying one, and it was soon abandoned. Powers not long afterward induced a charitably disposed organ builder and clock-maker to employ him in the capacity of a bill collector, and his success in that line led to his becoming a workman in the factory. His employer was not long in finding out that he had in Hiram Powers a valuable assistant. A short space of time sufficed to make him thoroughly familiar with his new occupation, and he was then made superintendent of the mechanical branch of the business.

About the time that Powers was thus raised above his former condition of poverty, a plaster cast of Houdon's Washington which he chanced to see aroused within him his latent ambition to become a sculptor. He instinctively felt that he possessed the ability to perform similar work, and began to seek earnestly for an opportunity to learn. From his early boyhood he had delighted in fashioning mechanical toys, and had been much admired for his ingenuity by his playmates. He was fortunate in making the acquaintance of a Prussian who was engaged in modelling a statue of General Jackson, and from him he learned many of the important principles of his art. His natural talent for sculpture developed rapidly, and before long he had acquired considerable local fame for the correctness of the likenesses which he executed in wax or clay.

HIRAM POWERS.

He was about twenty-three years of age when he found a more congenial occupation than any in which he had yet been engaged. Recommended by his skill in modelling and his familiarity with clock mechanism, he was employed by a Frenchman, named Dorfeuille, the owner of a museum, to construct a series of automaton from wax and other materials, with the proper machinery for putting them in motion. He was quite successful, and for seven years he continued to delight the not over critical audiences which patronized his exhibition. The most celebrated group of figures which he made, was a representation of the inhabitants of the Infernal Regions, in which demons, skeletons and ghosts writhed in most orthodox torments. The somewhat Dantesque idea of this entertainment is said to have been suggested by the famous English authoress, Mrs. Trollope, who was then living in Cincinnati, and who took much interest in the artist's work. Among the numerous circle of acquaintances which Powers formed in Cincinnati, was a gentleman named Nicholas Longworth, who proposed to establish him as proprietor of the museum. Powers declined this offer, but as he was now married, and constrained by the cares of an increasing family to seek a wider field, he accepted that gentleman's aid in 1835, and removed to Washington.

During his two years' residence in the national capital, he was busily engaged in making models for busts of many of the prominent men of the time. John Quincy Adams, Calhoun, Chief Justice Marshall, Martin Van Buren, and many others were among the number of his patrons. He went to Marshfield with Daniel Webster, to obtain sittings, and passed a most enjoyable week at the statesman's home. His bust of President Jackson was a work of remarkable accuracy, so that the Prussian Minister, Baron Krudener, whose authority in matters of art was highly considered, censured the artist for his fidelity to nature, it being con-

HIRAM POWERS.

trary to his notions of propriety to reproduce the lines and wrinkles in the features of so exalted a personage as the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. In 1837, Powers left America, to seek in Italy those facilities for prosecuting his art which are to be found nowhere else in the world. He was enabled to do this mainly through the liberality of General Preston of South Carolina, who advanced him a thousand dollars, and authorized him to draw upon him annually for a similar sum for several years. Powers was always profoundly grateful to this generous friend, although he amply repaid him in after years in the choicest products of his studio, and deeply regretted his patron's disloyalty during the Rebellion. A son, who was born to Powers in Florence, received the name of Preston, and has himself obtained an honorable reputation as a sculptor.

He was welcomed to Italy by Greenough, who was almost exactly of his own age, but whose advantages had been immeasurably greater than his own. The two artists became warm friends, and mutually aided each other in designing mechanical contrivances and improved modelling materials, by which the drudgery of their art was lessened to a considerable degree. Powers was extremely painstaking and faithful; he was no dreamer, but aimed at a truthful delineation of nature, and neglected no means for attaining the desired end, though sometimes taken to task by carping critics for devoting too much of his time to the invention and construction of patent files, "perforating machines," and other labor-saving devices. His portrait busts have rarely been excelled. He was soon abundantly supplied with orders, but hardly had he become fairly settled, when the death of his eldest son unfitted him for a time for work. He received flattering notice from native artists, as well as from Thorwaldsen, who especially praised his head of Webster. In the second year of his residence in Italy he produced his first ideal piece, a statue of Eve, "fit," said

HIRAM POWERS.

the Danish sculptor already referred to, "to be any man's masterpiece."

A year later he conceived the design of the Greek Slave, which was not however completed until 1843. It was the most famous piece of statuary produced since the days of Canova. It is probably better known to-day, through its numerous reproductions, than any other work of modern art. It was purchased by an English gentleman, and exhibited by him, gratuitously, in London, in 1845, receiving high encomiums which established the artist's reputation beyond cavil. He subsequently made five *replicas* of this work, one of which is now in the Corcoran Gallery at Washington. Among his other ideal pieces may be mentioned the Fisher Boy, Il Penseroso, Proserpine, California, and the Statue of America which was exhibited at the World's Fair of 1851. All of these displayed remarkable vigor of conception, and beauty of finish; and they are justly esteemed as choice treasures of art; but they do not constitute the artist's highest claim to the grateful remembrance of his fellow-countrymen. That rests upon his numerous busts and statues of the distinguished men of his country, whose form and features he has preserved for future generations in almost living marble and bronze, and to which he devoted his maturest thought and labors. Prominent among them are the Franklin and the Jefferson in marble in the national Capitol, Washington, the property of the State of Louisiana, and Calhoun of South Carolina, and the Webster in bronze before the Massachusetts State House.

Powers never returned to America, but made Florence his permanent residence. He was, however, none the less an American at heart, and would gladly have quitted his exile, had he not been constrained to remain abroad by the exigencies of his profession and from motives of economy. He lived for many years in a hired house, but toward the close of his life he built a charming villa just outside the

HIRAM POWERS.

Porta Romana, and near by, several of his married children also made homes for themselves. The American or the English visitor was heartily welcome, both to his house and to the spacious atelier which he erected in his garden, while he was held in high esteem by his Italian neighbors. The patriotic American has just cause to be proud of the success of Hiram Powers, who probably did more than any other man to elevate American Art and American Genius in the eyes of Europeans. He died June 27, 1873, in his sixty-eighth year.





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HORATIO GREENOUGH.

From an original in the possession of Lawrence Curtis, Esq.,
of Boston.

HORATIO GREENOUGH.



HORATIO GREENOUGH, the first American to attain distinction as a sculptor, was born in Boston, September 6, 1805, only a little more than a month after his distinguished contemporary, the subject of the last sketch. In early boyhood he began to manifest an extraordinary aptitude for executing ornamental designs in wood and other materials. We are told of beautifully carved daggers; a pistol inlaid with arabesque designs; carriages with horses and drivers neatly moulded in beeswax; a lion couchant, in butter; a figure of William Penn, in chalk, and many other youthful attempts which were the wonder and admiration of his friends, from whom he received ample encouragement. A stone-cutter instructed him in the use of tools better adapted to the purposes of art than the sharp-pointed nails with which his first designs had been made. A physician kindly loaned him a set of anatomical models, and Binon, a French sculptor of some prominence, gave him lessons in modelling clay and allowed him to practise in his studio. His father, a practical man of business, did not discourage his artistic longings, but insisted that he should pass through a regular academical and collegiate course before beginning the systematic study of sculpture. In every branch except mathematics he proved an excellent scholar.

Horatio pursued his preparatory studies at Lancaster,

HORATIO GREENOUGH.

together with a younger brother, Henry, who became an architect of note and died in 1883. In 1821, he entered Harvard. While at Cambridge it was his good fortune to form the acquaintance of the distinguished painter, Washington Allston, whose kindly advice was of the utmost benefit in elevating his ideas of art. Without neglecting his regular studies, he was able to devote considerable time to landscape painting, and he also wrote very creditable verses. The exterior form and proportions of the Bunker Hill monument were adopted from a model constructed by Horatio Greenough while at college. In 1825, at the close of his senior year, having been prevented by his diffidence from taking the part assigned to him at the commencement, he took passage for Marseilles, from whence he proceeded to Rome, and at once began the diligent study of his beloved art.

He entered upon the usual course of modelling from life, and from antiques, under the guidance of the illustrious Dane, Thorwaldsen; but before long a serious fit of sickness, induced by overwork and malaria, necessitated his return to America. His health was restored by the homeward voyage, and he at once began to make portrait busts in his native city. Early in the year 1828 he went to Washington, where he received commissions from President Adams, Chief Justice Marshall and others, and he also obtained sittings in Baltimore and Philadelphia. In the following year he returned to Italy, and after passing three months in the great marble quarries of Carrara, he established himself at Florence, which beautiful city became his home for the greater portion of the remainder of his life. For a time he suffered from the lack of patronage, which is nothing uncommon to young artists; but his distress was quickly relieved by an anonymous contribution of money, probably from his friends in Boston. Soon afterward he gained the friendship of James Fenimore Cooper, who recognized the

HORATIO GREENOUGH.

sculptor's ability, and gave him an order for a marble group, the subject of which was suggested by one of Raphael's paintings in the Pitti Palace. This group, which is now known as "The Chanting Cherubs," arrived in Boston in the spring of 1831, and being placed upon exhibition there, attracted great attention. It is thus referred to in a letter written by the famous novelist, who had become its owner, "It is the first effort of a young artist, who bids fair to build for himself a name; it is more, it is the first group completed by an American Sculptor."

Henceforth fortune smiled upon Greenough and he had no lack of patrons. In September, 1831, he went to Paris, where he remained for three months in the company of Cooper and of S. F. B. Morse, who was yet an artist; but was ere long to lay down his brush to find his enduring fame in a different line. During this visit he made a bust of Lafayette. His friend, Cooper, now exerted his influence to obtain for him a commission from the United States government, and as the result of these efforts, Greenough received from Congress, in 1832, an order for a colossal statue in marble, of Washington. The execution of this statue, the masterpiece of the artist, occupied some eight years. It was placed in the Rotunda of the Capitol in 1842, but it was subsequently removed to its present position in the eastern court of the Capitol grounds; against the wishes of Greenough, who designed it especially for the interior of a building. It represents the Father of his Country seated, in Roman costume, the upper portion of the body almost entirely nude. The novelty of this treatment of the subject evoked much unfavorable criticism, and opinion is yet divided as to the merit of the work. Greenough himself said of it: "It is the birth of my thought, and I have sacrificed to it the flower of my days and the freshness of my strength; its every lineament has been moistened with the sweat of my toil and the tears of my exile. I would not barter away

HORATIO GREENOUGH.

its associations with my name for the proudest fortune avarice ever dreamed of." Some years after Congress gave the order for the statue of Washington, another was given for an ornamental group, which also occupied several years of Greenough's time; but was not brought to this country until after his death.

Besides these works of great magnitude, Greenough was likewise busily engaged in filling private orders, his most pleasing works being his representations of childish figures. In 1836 he made a brief visit to Boston. In a letter dated at Paris, in April of that year, he says: "I ought to be thankful, certainly, for so much success and comfort. If I were to be cut off to-morrow, I should not have lived in vain, either for happiness or for success. In the autumn of 1837, he was married to Miss Louisa Gore, a Boston lady, and moved into an elegant home in Florence, which became the resort of all the prominent American tourists who visited the city, as well as of the best Italian society. Life, for him, was in these days a happy one. He tells his brother, "I pass my time agreeably, and assure you that the prospect of a pleasant evening circle carries me through the toils of the day."

Greenough's next visit to his native land was in 1842, his principal object being to oversee the placing of his statue. He spent the winter in Washington, having requested of Congress an appropriation of five thousand dollars for a granite pedestal, and it is worthy of note that his bill passed upon the same day with that of his friend Professor Morse, for the construction of the first line of telegraph. He left America again in July, 1843, returning by way of England, where he spent a few weeks. He remained in Europe for the next eight years, absorbed in his profession at his studio in Florence, with an occasional holiday trip to Vienna, or to the famous water cure establishment of Priessnitz at Gräfenberg. He became greatly attached to his Italian

HORATIO GREENOUGH.

home, but never forgot the land of his birth, with her free institutions. He ever remained a true republican. Italy was groaning under the iron heel of despotic Austria, and Greenough was greatly disappointed at the non-success of the patriotic rising of 1848, though he and his family were not molested by the Germans, as he obtained from the American Consul at Leghorn a small diplomatic office, which protected him against the Austrian soldiery.

Horatio Greenough left Italy for the last time in 1851, and came back to America with a half-formed intention of remaining there permanently. His group for the national Capitol was now finished, but the Government was tardy in sending for it, and also in adjusting financial matters with the artist who chafed under these delays and the seeming injustice of the Government in refusing him the privilege of exhibiting his work. The group, which he called "The Rescue," but which is better known as "Civilization," now adorns the Senate side of the magnificent central portico of the Capitol. It represents a sturdy Western pioneer holding a savage in his firm grasp, and averting the blow of the upraised tomahawk from his crouching wife and child. It is a striking emblem of the triumph of the Anglo-Saxon over the Red Man. While anxiously awaiting its arrival, Greenough received a commission for an equestrian statue of Washington, and taking a studio at Newport, R. I., he began work upon it with enthusiasm, at the same time writing some magazine articles on art, and delivering a few lectures on the same subject. He had already modelled the horse, when fatigue and excitement brought on an attack of brain fever. He was removed to Somerville, Mass., and received every possible care; but on the 18th of December, 1852, he died, in the maturity of his manhood and genius.



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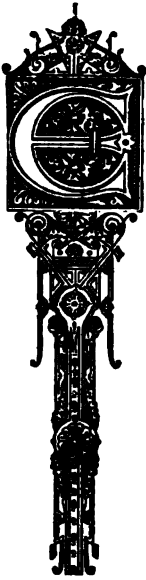


JOHN W. WILSON
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EDWIN FORREST.

From life.

EDWIN FORREST.



EDWIN FORREST, the greatest of American tragedians, was born in Philadelphia, March 9, 1806. He was the son of a Scotchman, who after meeting with misfortune in mercantile business, ended his days, in 1819, as a banker's clerk. He received but a meagre schooling, and had little inclination to work; was, in fact, a street arab; but he was endowed with a wonderfully tenacious memory, and great powers of mimicry. He began to frequent the theatre at an early age, formed an amateur dramatic company among his companions, and actually made a public appearance before he was eleven, in female attire; only, however, to be hooted from the stage. Before long his extraordinary talents as a declaimer began to attract attention, and friends were found who provided for him a course of training in elocution; and on November 27, 1820, he made his *début* as Norval. He was received with applause, and repeated his success on several occasions during the next two years, in which he continued to work at a trade. He became a regular member of a travelling theatrical company in October, 1822, and thenceforth his life was devoted solely to the drama.

For the first three years his lot was far from being a happy one. He made his way from one city to another through the West and South; sometimes penniless, barefooted and hungry, sometimes achieving a temporary success. His *répertoire* was drawn from every department of the histrionic

EDWIN FORREST.

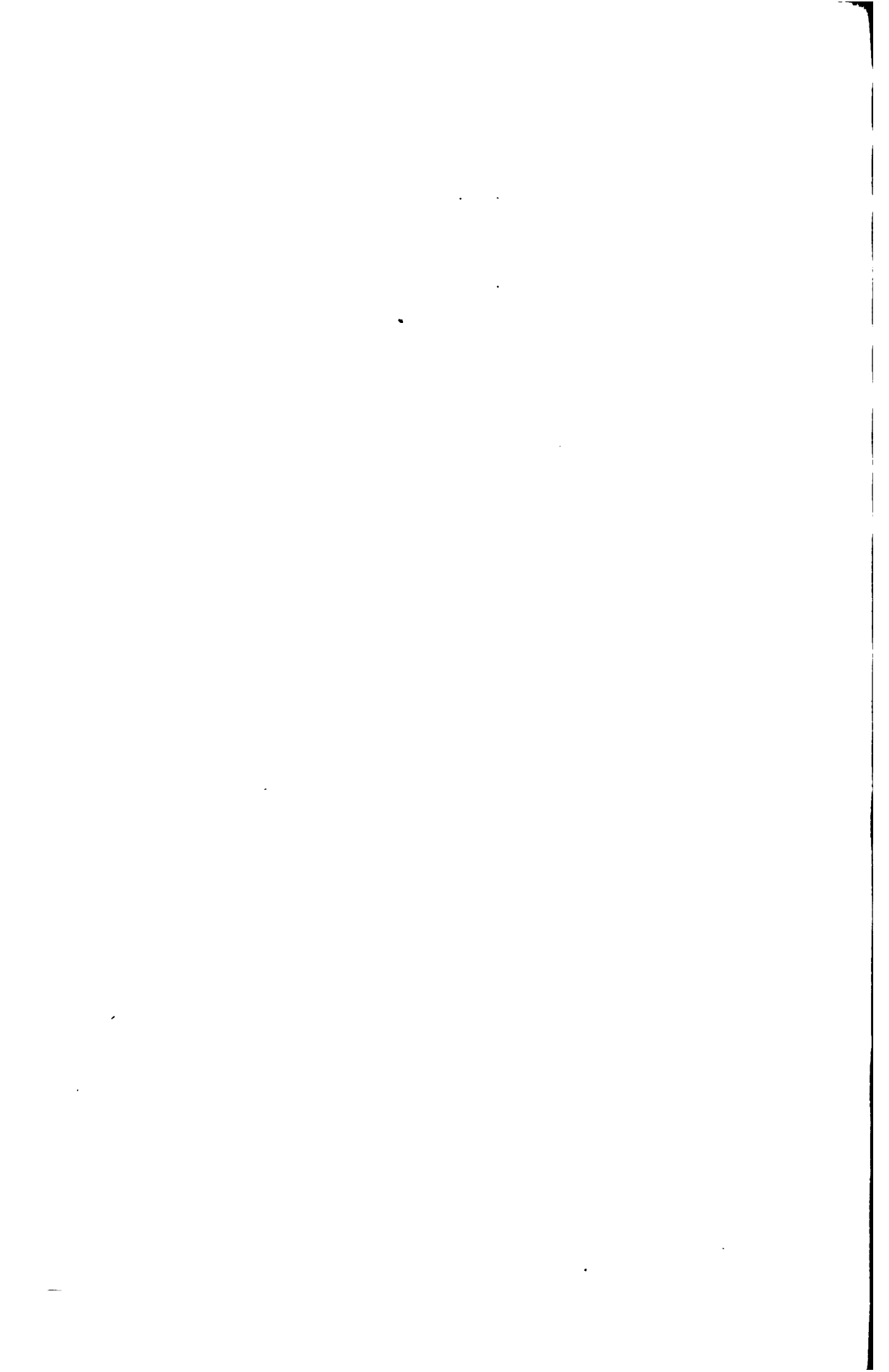
art; tragedy, comedy, minstrelsy, and even the circus ring being laid under contribution according to the varied tastes of his audiences. In May, 1825, he made his first appearance in Payne's tragedy of "Brutus," at New Orleans; a play in which he gained great distinction in later years. Soon after his return to the North, he filled an engagement at Albany, where he supported the famous English actor, Edmund Kean. He now rose very rapidly to that high position on the stage which he held for so many years and against so many rivals, abandoning comedy and devoting his time and attention to tragedy alone. At the time he attained his majority he had just terminated a successful season at the Bowery Theatre in New York (then just built), at forty dollars a week. So great had his popularity become that the manager reëngaged him for eighty nights, at two hundred dollars a night.

Several years of uniform success on the American stage now ensued, after which, in July, 1834, having acquired both fame and fortune, he took his departure for Europe and then spent two years in visiting many of the scenes which had witnessed the life and actions of *Richelieu* and *William Tell*, of *Coriolanus* and *Othello* and *Shylock*, of *Lear* and *Jack Cade* and *Richard*. He returned to America for a few weeks in the fall of 1836, being received by his admirers in Philadelphia and New York with unbounded enthusiasm. For six performances in the latter city he received three thousand dollars. Returning to England, he made his first appearance in the mother country, on the 17th of September, 1836, as "Spartacus" in *The Gladiator*. His first English engagement was a pronounced success, and after an absence of about a year, he again returned to America, the recognized head of his profession. While in England, he was married, in June, 1837, to Catherine Sinclair, a union happy at first, but unfortunately not destined to remain so.

EDWIN FORREST.

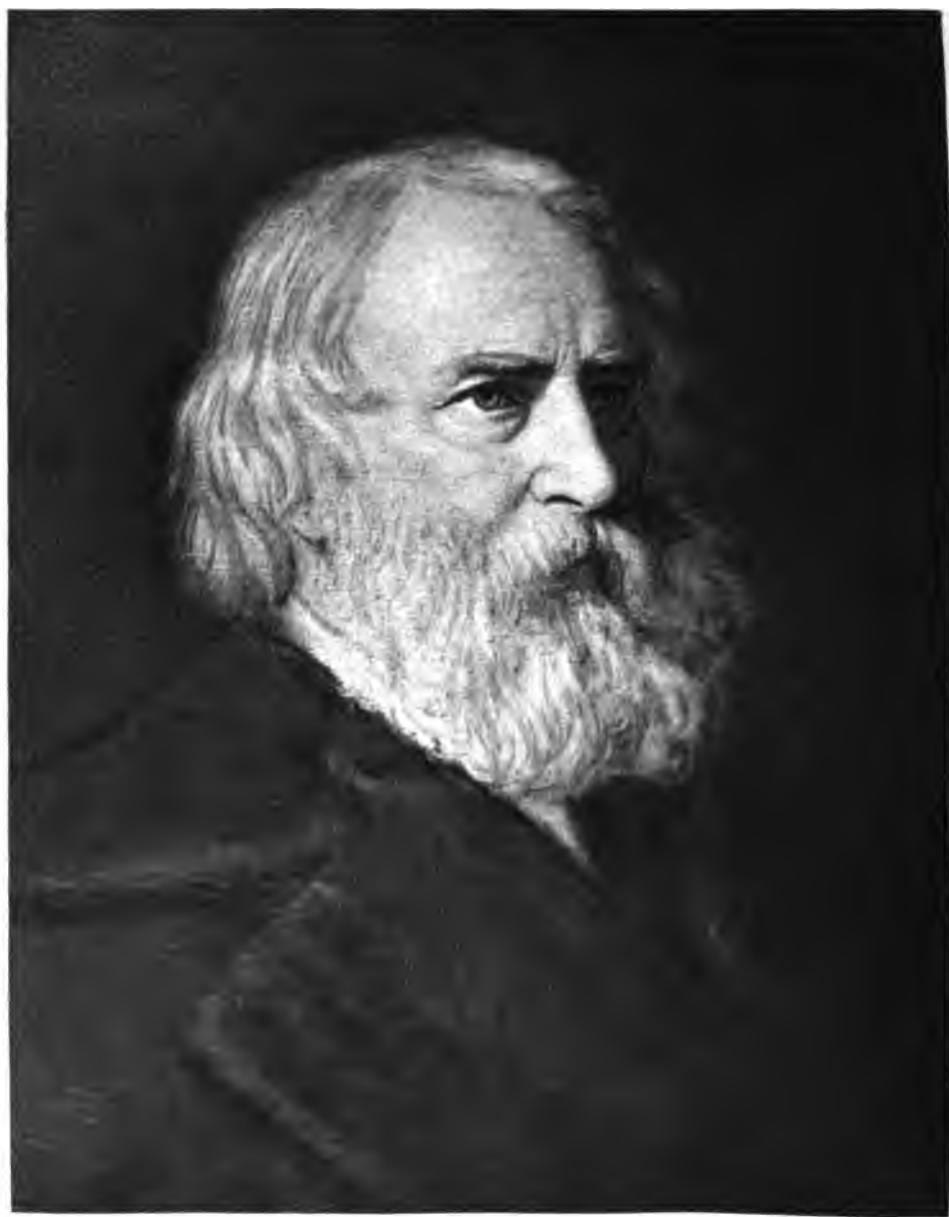
Rapidly increasing wealth, the welcome applause of the multitude, and high social honors were his. Even political distinction would have been his had he not declined it. But the happiness which he might have enjoyed in so great a measure was marred, and slowly undermined by his own failings, chief among which were his imperious self-will and his inordinate jealousy of professional rivals. William Charles Macready held the first place on the English stage as Forrest did in this country. In 1843, when Forrest was at the zenith of his fame, Macready, who was thirteen years his senior, made his second appearance in America. Sixteen years previously he had met with an indifferent reception here, and now, brought into competition with his younger contemporary, he suffered severely in the comparison, and returned to England filled with hatred toward Forrest. Two years later the American tragedian made his second professional visit to England, when, to his astonishment and indignation, his *Macbeth* was loudly hissed upon his opening night. He very soon terminated his engagement, attributing its failure, justly or unjustly, to Macready's influence. On the 2d of March, 1846, Macready was playing *Hamlet* at Edinburgh, when Forrest, who was in one of the boxes, deliberately rose in his place and hissed his rival — a foolish exhibition of temper which utterly ruined his own reputation in Great Britain.

This contemptible players' quarrel was productive of most disastrous consequences. It was renewed with increased rancor upon the return of Macready to America in 1848, and carried on for a time in the newspapers, Forrest abusing Macready in very ungentlemanly terms, while the Englishman's replies were more dignified. Both parties had their sympathizers. Macready attempted to play at the Astor Place Opera House in New York on the 7th of May, 1849, but was hooted from the stage by the mob. His friends, including many of the first citizens, induced him to give





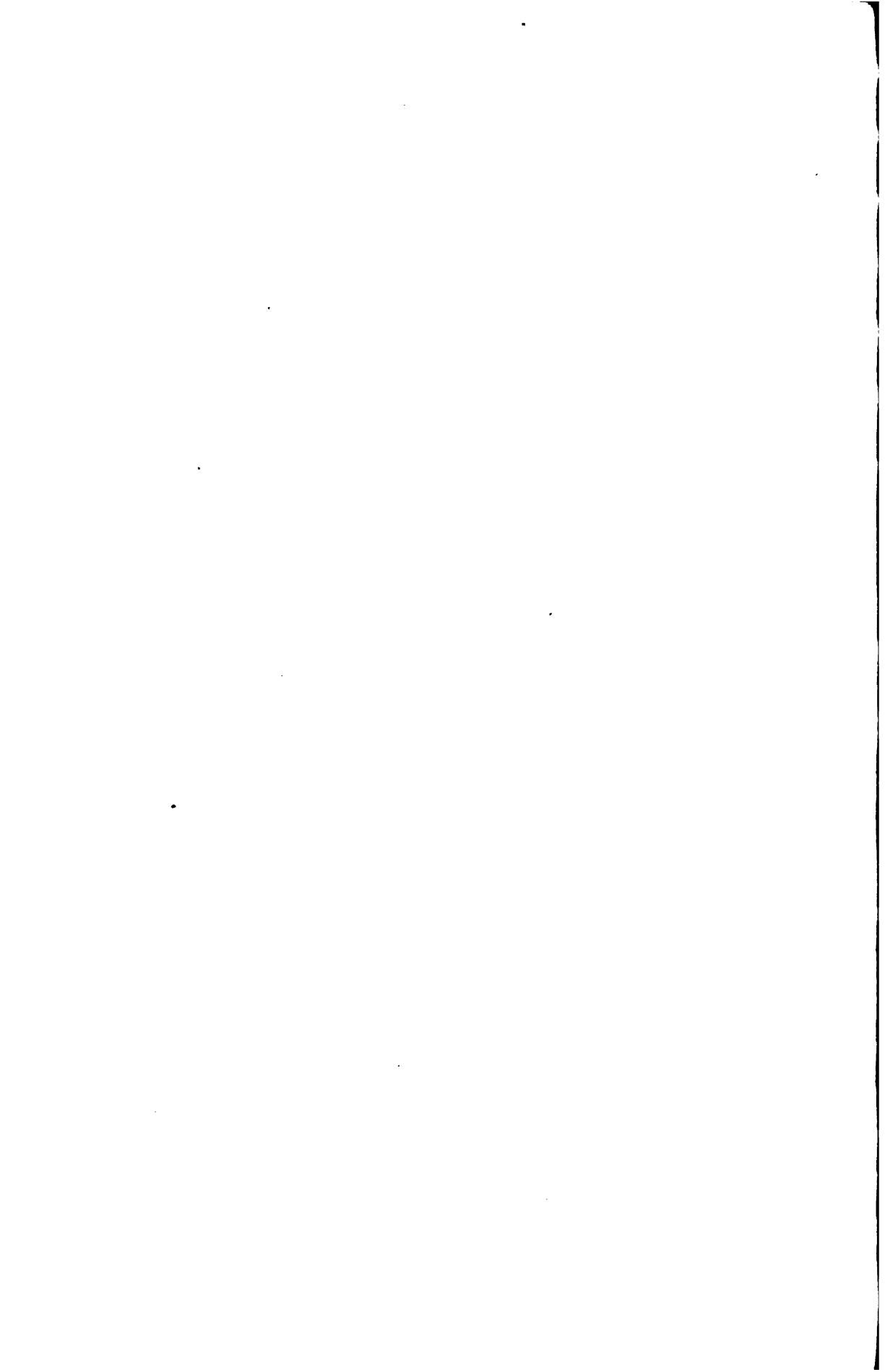
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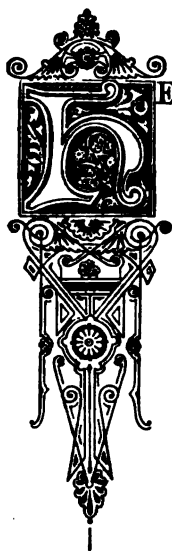
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H. W. LONGFELLOW.

From an original owned by Miss Longfellow.



HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.



HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW, the greatest of American poets, was born on the 27th of February, 1807, in Portland, Me., and in that town he passed his boyhood days, and received his schooling. His early surroundings, if not marked by affluence, were at least those of comfort and culture, well calculated to develop and foster his inherent genius. He had hardly entered his teens, when his first poetic attempts found a place in the local newspaper. In 1821 he became a student at Bowdoin College, and a classmate of Nathaniel Hawthorne. His standing was high, and while he was not unsocial, yet he showed no disposition to engage in the sports and pranks of his less studious fellows. During his college course he continued to write verses which were accepted by magazine editors, and sometimes paid for, and some of them received the high compliment of being attributed to Bryant, who indeed influenced the young poet, as he himself acknowledged many years later. He graduated in 1825.

Longfellow's father, who was a lawyer, wished his son to adopt a profession, preferably his own, but the young man's passionate desire to rise to literary eminence caused him to look with some disfavor on this proposition. A fortunate solution of the difficulty was found immediately after the graduation. The newly-established Professorship

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

of Modern Languages at Bowdoin, was offered to Longfellow, with the understanding that he should spend some years in Europe in preparatory study, and was readily accepted. He sailed for New York in May, 1826, and arrived in Havre a month later. He passed nine months in France, eight in Spain, a year in Italy, and six months in Germany, diligently studying the languages of these countries. The account of his travels during these three years, as depicted in his letters and in the first of his prose works, "Outre-Mer," published in 1835, present to the reader a perfect ideal of a student's life. The romantic memories of the scenes and experiences of this delightful period ever lingered in the poet's brain, and doubtless added sweetness to his songs. A brief visit to England rounded out his pleasant and profitable tour, and he returned home in August, 1829.

Longfellow resided at Brunswick, Me., for five and a half years, engrossed in the duties of his professorship. During that time he contributed a number of reviews to the *North American*, and published several French and Spanish textbooks, but he wrote little poetry, although, in 1833, he published a volume of poetic translations from the Spanish. He was married in September, 1831. In December, 1834, he accepted the chair of modern languages at Harvard, and in the following April, accompanied by his wife, he went a second time to Europe, with the intention of studying the German and Scandinavian tongues. This tour, which occupied a year and a half, was saddened by the illness of Mrs. Longfellow, which terminated fatally at Rotterdam, on the 29th of November, 1835. In January, 1837, Longfellow entered upon his duties at Cambridge, and in the same year, he resumed the composition of poetry, which he had almost entirely neglected since his college days.

Very few among those who have earned for themselves an honorable name, have attained eminence with less apparent effort than Henry W. Longfellow. The course of his life

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

may appropriately be likened to that of a majestic river, which flows on, ever gaining added momentum, but meeting with few impediments. It is true that on one or two occasions, he experienced severe affliction, but it is also true that no one ever found greater wealth of sympathy in his time of sorrow. His daily familiar intercourse was with people of the highest culture, while his simple and unaffected courtesy and high scholarly attainments made him the centre of a charmed circle. His official duties were such as to give him just a sufficient amount of work to prevent his suffering from the inactivity which he dreaded, and at the same time they left him just a sufficient amount of leisure in which to indulge his poetic fancies as he might feel disposed, and they were relinquished after eighteen years just at the time when routine labor became irksome. Truly his lines fell in pleasant places. His poetry was spontaneous; not a line of it was ever written in response to the calls of necessity or avarice. As his beautiful thoughts came to him, so he gave them to the world; but none of his verse was written to order. How well he loved to exercise those talents with which he was endowed above his fellows, is shown by the fact that only two out of the forty-six years which measure the period of his literary activity, that only closed with his death, witnessed any cessation of the labors of that pen whose productions were, and still are, the delight of two great peoples, speaking one common tongue.

Shortly after going to Cambridge, Professor Longfellow took rooms at the "Craigie Mansion," which had been the headquarters of General Washington for the nine months intervening between Bunker Hill and the fall of Boston. Six years later he became its owner, and made it his home, and probably no private house in America, save Mount Vernon, was so familiarly known for the next generation, to the people of this country, nor an object of such deep interest to visitors from abroad. Two of Longfellow's

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

earlier works were prose writings. One of these we have already noticed; the second, a novel called "Hyperion," with just enough of a plot to serve as a kind of common bond for a series of exquisite descriptions, founded upon his second European experiences, appeared in 1839, a month or so previously to his first book of original poetry, "Voices of the Night." This latter book includes five of his early poems — all that he considered worth saving of his youthful effusions, though a number of them were, at a subsequent time, collected and published without his approbation. It was about this time that Longfellow received and declined the offer of a Professorship in the University of Alabama.

It is fair to presume that every reader of this sketch is, to some extent, at least, familiar with the writings of Longfellow, and many a gem among his shorter poems has been indelibly impressed upon the memory of his admirers (and who is not among the number?) from the days of childhood. We will therefore confine our notice to a few of the more celebrated of his works. A second collection, published in 1841, contained the "Village Blacksmith" and "Excelsior," and met with a quick sale. In the ensuing year, Longfellow was allowed a six months' vacation, about three months of which were spent at a water-cure on the Rhine. While journeying thither he visited the *Belfry of Bruges*, which formed the theme of a poem, and gave a title to a third collection, published several years later. Returning by the way of England, he was for a time the welcome guest of Charles Dickens. To beguile the tedium of the homeward sea-voyage, he wrote a series of "Poems on Slavery," which were immediately published. He thus publicly put himself on record on the then unpopular side of the controversy, though in such mild and gentle terms, that the more violent Abolitionists received the "Poems" but coldly. By some of the more moderate of them, however, he was offered a congressional nomination, and among this number

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

was our lamented Whittier, who wrote to him, "Our friends think that they can throw for thee one thousand more votes than for any other man." It is needless to say that the honor was declined. The year 1843 was marked by the appearance of the drama of "The Spanish Student," and also by the poet's second marriage, which occurred on the 13th of July. For the next year or two, much of his time was occupied in preparing for the press a volume of poems by European authors, with critical notices.

As the years passed away, they brought not only prosperity and fame, but domestic felicity as well. Sons and daughters were added to the household, and every day the hospitable mansion sheltered some old friend or some new guest. Even the stranger was courteously received by the distinguished author, whose patience was often severely tried, but who never willingly wounded the sensibilities of another, while children ever met with the poet's kindest greetings. His correspondence grew to enormous proportions, yet, as far as was possible, he tried to make some reply to even the most obscure writer who did not make an unreasonable demand upon his time. His reputation was fully established by the publication, in 1847, of his immortal poem, "Evangeline," for the incidents of which he was in some degree indebted to his friend Hawthorne. Among all his works, only his masterpiece, "Hiawatha," disputes the preëminence with this sadly beautiful tale. "Hiawatha" was published in 1855. In the interval between these, his most famous works, he printed two volumes of poetry and his last novel, "Kavanagh," and, in September, 1854, resigned his Professorship.

Untrammelled by affairs, he continued to give free play to a fruitful imagination, controlled by perfect taste. Volume after volume of his verse was eagerly welcomed by thousands of readers, delighting the happy, and soothing the suffering. "The Puritan maiden Priscilla," the heroine of "The Courtship of Miles Standish" (1858), was the poet's

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

ancestor, seven generations removed. Longfellow was well pleased with the distinction which came to him through his literary successes; but he had no shadow of a desire for political honors. His sympathies were, however, strongly with the party which opposed slavery, especially after the dastardly attack upon his most intimate friend, Senator Sumner. During the eighteen years of his married life, he was rarely long away from his family, either at Cambridge, or else at his summer home by the sea at Nahant. He was eminently a home lover, and the

“—— pause in the day's occupations
That is known as the Children's Hour,”

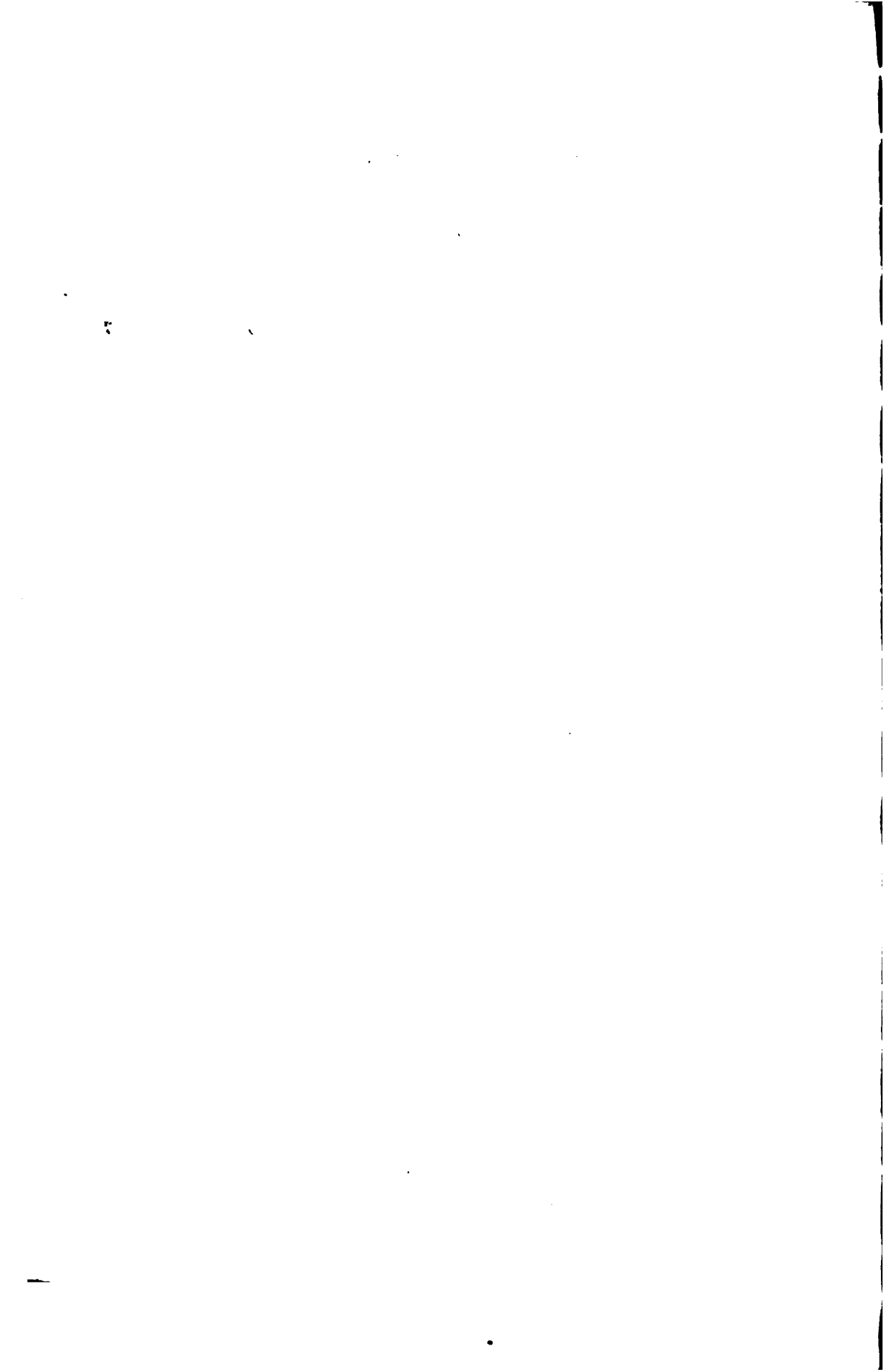
was an ever-welcome relief amid the constant activity to which his preëminent position in society subjected him. His happiness was at length sadly and suddenly overclouded by the loss of his wife, who, in July, 1861, met death in the terrible form of burning.

In March, 1863, Longfellow's oldest son, not yet twenty years of age, went to the war, as a lieutenant of cavalry. Late in November in the same year, just after the publication of the first series of the “Tales of a Wayside Inn,” Lieutenant Longfellow was severely wounded in battle, and was brought home by his father, who had hastened to Washington to receive him as he was brought from the front. On the 27th of May, 1868, just as the “New England Tragedies” were coming from the press, Longfellow sailed from New York on his last journey to Europe. He was absent about eighteen months, and in England, France and Italy he was received with honor, as one of the foremost men of letters of the age. Oxford and Cambridge conferred upon him their degrees—Harvard had done so years before—and at their own express request he was presented to Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales. After his return home, he continued to work upon a translation of Dante, which

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

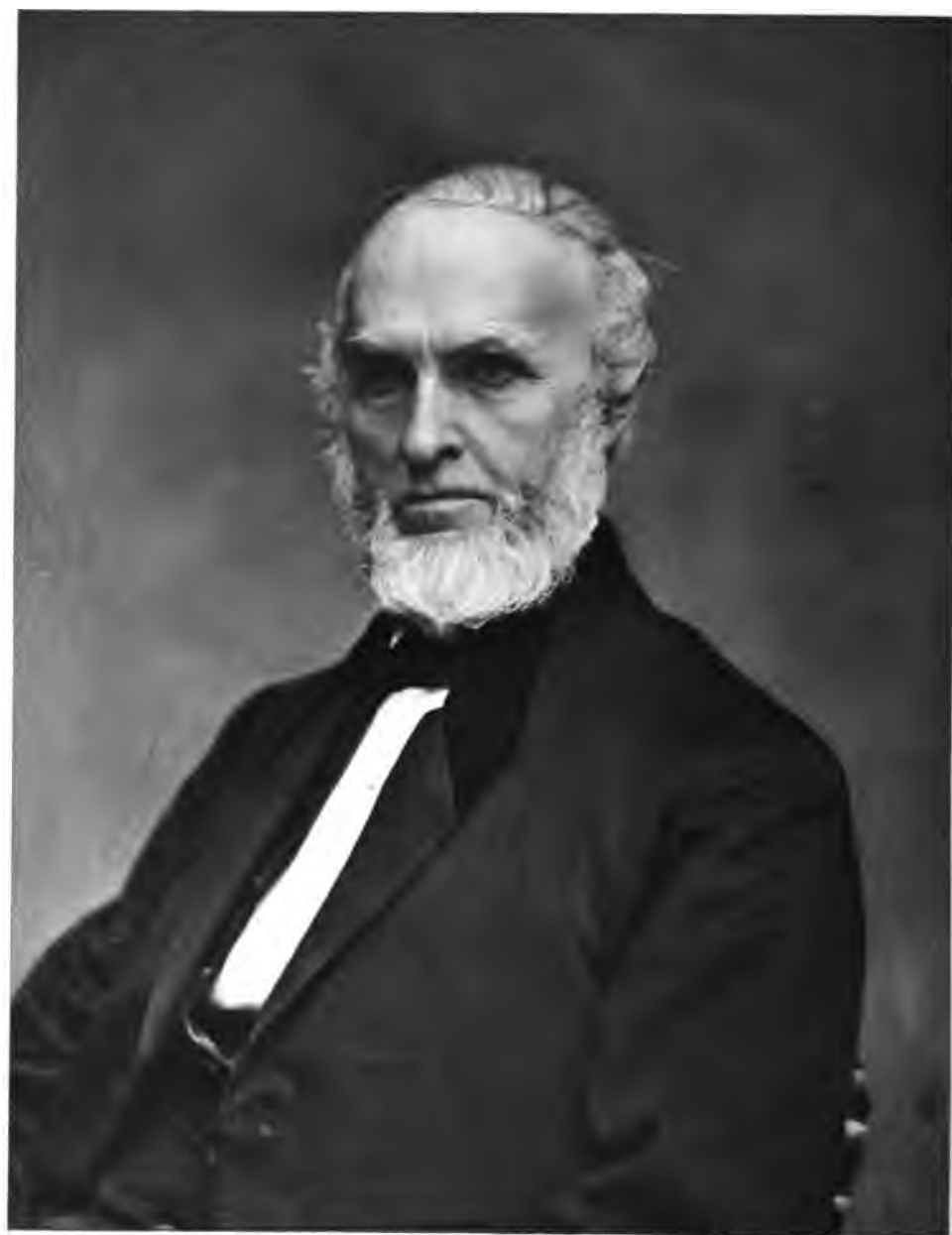
had occupied him for several years, and which was published in 1870. Two years later appeared "Christus," in its complete form. During the last ten years of his life, he published five volumes more, closing with "Ultima Thule," in 1880. Some of the single poems of his later years brought extraordinary prices from willing publishers. The Harpers paid one thousand dollars each for "Keramos," and "Morturi Salutamus," while Robert Bonner, of the *Ledger*, gave four thousand dollars for the "Hanging of the Crane." The incidents of his closing years, the present of the Chestnut-tree chair, by the children of Cambridge, the general celebration of his seventy-fifth birthday, and many others, are still so fresh in the minds of all as not to require repetition. On the 24th of March, 1882, the bells of Cambridge tolled out the sad news that Henry W. Longfellow was dead, that the beautiful, useful and blameless life was ended. Portions of his works have been translated into every civilized tongue, and a memorial in his honor has been placed in Westminster Abbey, while "his memory is in the keeping of those whom his song has charmed and blessed."







NEW YORK
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JOHN G. WHITTIER.

From life.

JOHN G. WHITTIER.



JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER, the sweet singer of New England and its home life, was born on the 17th of December, 1807, in Haverhill, Mass. He was the second of the four children of John and Abigail Hussey Whittier, worthy members of the Society of Friends, and to the faith and practices of that branch of the Christian Church in which he was reared, the poet ever remained faithful.

His parents were the owners of an Essex County farm, which by dint of hard work and self-denial on their part, provided for the family a decent living, but few, if any, of the luxuries. He was sent to the district school when about seven years of age as a matter of course, and before long he began to show signs of his peculiar talent, by scribbling verses instead of attending to his lessons. It is a familiar story, retold in the boyhood life of nearly every versifier; but Whittier's devotion to the poetic muse, which was much encouraged by an elder sister, did not interfere to prevent him from becoming an industrious worker upon the farm, and, if some accounts are to be trusted, something of a shoemaker as well. Nothing occurred to distinguish him above other country boys, until his nineteenth year, when he found courage to mail a copy of some of his verses to a Newburyport Weekly, the *Free Press*, whose editor was no other than William Lloyd Garrison, then just beginning his famous career as an Abolitionist. The favorable reception

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

of this first poem led to further contributions, and the editor sought out the modest anonymous author and earnestly encouraged him to improve his talents as a writer. In 1827 Whittier spent six months in attendance at the Haverhill Academy, and he must have well improved his opportunities, for during the ensuing winter, he taught school at the neighboring town of Amesbury. His faculties were rapidly maturing; none of his time was wasted in the ordinary frivolities of youth.

He was already a contributor, both in prose and poetry, to several periodicals, when, in the winter of 1829, he went to Boston, for reading and study, and was entrusted with the editorship of a protective tariff paper, known as the *Manufacturer*. He was for a time a roommate of Garrison, who, in his crusade against slavery, found a warm supporter in Mr. Whittier, and the two became close friends for life. Early in 1830, he returned to Haverhill, and became editor of the *Gazette* at that place, resigning the position after about six months to accept the unexpected and flattering offer of the editorship of the *New England Weekly Review*, at Hartford, Conn. He supported the political views of Henry Clay and the National Republicans on questions of tariff and finance, while favoring the most advanced reforms with regard to slavery and temperance. He did not, like his friend Garrison, eschew politics, and denounce the Constitution; but his connection with public affairs was limited, for the most part, to the writing of essays and editorials, and to voting, which he always considered the sacred duty of a freeman. He visited his home in March, 1831, and remained there until after his father's death in June. In this year also appeared Mr. Whittier's first book, "Legends of New England," partly poetry, which the author was afterwards inclined to disown, and partly somewhat better prose. On the 2d of January, 1832, he retired from the *Review*, on account of failing health, and because his pres-

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

ence was now needed on the farm at Haverhill, of which he was, for the following five years, the manager.

His pen did not remain idle; it was at this time that he began to use it in behalf of the anti-slavery cause, thus deliberately casting his lot with a people who for thirty years were to be subjected to social ostracism, personal insult, and even bodily injury. The earliest of his writings on this subject was a pamphlet entitled, "Justice and Expediency" which was issued in the year 1833. It was in this year, which witnessed the downfall of slavery in the British dominions, that Garrison visited England, and upon his return took measures to establish the American Anti-Slavery Society. A convention was held for this purpose in Philadelphia, to which Mr. Whittier was a delegate, and of which he was chosen one of the secretaries. Early in the following year, he aided in organizing a branch society in his native town; but the unpopularity of the cause in which he was engaged did not prevent his fellow-townsmen from electing him a member of the General Court. The year 1835 is long to be remembered on account of the disgraceful acts of violence perpetrated in the free State of Massachusetts and elsewhere, at the North, upon peaceful men, by mobs of pro-slavery sympathizers. One such mob, armed with a cannon, broke up a gathering at Haverhill upon a Sabbath evening in August. Mr. Whittier was at the time in Concord, N. H., in company with the English Abolitionist, George Thompson, and upon the same Sabbath evening was personally assaulted and injured by a mob who forced him to leave the town with his English friend. So great was the popular rage against Mr. Thompson, that he was concealed by Mr. Whittier at Haverhill during the next two weeks. Two months later, while Mr. Whittier was in Boston attending an extra session of the Legislature, he witnessed the famous mob of respectable Whigs and Democrats who sought William Lloyd Garrison's life. Mr.

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Whittier was a member of the Legislature of 1836, but appears not to have taken his seat, owing to the pressure of other duties.

In 1836 Mr. Whittier published "Mogg Megone," a poem based upon incidents in Indian life. Much of his time during the next three years was spent in Philadelphia, he having been appointed Secretary of the American Anti-Slavery Society; but from May to December, 1836, he again edited the *Haverhill Gazette*, and for three months in 1837 he resided in New York City. In 1837 he also began to write for the *Pennsylvania Freeman*, of which he became, in the ensuing year, the editor. Hardly had he entered upon the duties of this latter office when he had another disagreeable experience with Northern sympathizers with slavery. The friends of free speech had erected Pennsylvania Hall, that they might have a place in which to discuss the great problems which were stirring society so deeply. The new building was dedicated on the 16th of May, 1838, amid the threatenings of the mob. On the next day an appeal was made to the mayor to protect the property, but that official not only declined to interfere, but actually incited the rabble to further violence, and during the following night the hall was burned to the ground; the firemen "nobly" (as a Southern journal expressed it) refusing to throw water upon the flames. The entire outfit of the *Freeman* was involved in the common ruin; but new quarters were found, and new type procured, and Mr. Whittier pluckily remained at his post for two years. In the summer of 1839, he made a journey into Western Pennsylvania in the interest of the Anti-Slavery Society.

Mr. Whittier resigned his position in February, 1840, leaving Philadelphia for Massachusetts in May, and during the rest of his life remained so constantly at home, that he has been called by some a "recluse" or a "hermit"; misnomers both of them, for there was about our beloved poet no

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trace of the churl which these titles hint at. He chose a life of retirement that he might devote himself without restraint to literary pursuits, and his innumerable admirers are thankful that he elected so to do. He held no further political office except that of Presidential Elector, he having enjoyed the rare, if not unique distinction, of twice casting his ballot for Abraham Lincoln for the office of President. Mr. Whittier did not, however, return to the old farm at Haverhill, for it had just been sold; but took up his residence at Amesbury, whither the family had removed. The household, beside the poet, who never married, consisted of his mother, his sister Elizabeth, and an aunt who died in 1846. Mr. Whittier was a large contributor to periodicals, besides issuing from time to time, the numerous volumes of his poems, which are known and loved wherever the English tongue is spoken, and to which further extended reference is unnecessary. Many of his prose writings do not possess an interest for the present generation equal to that which they excited in the times for which they were specially prepared. In 1844, he resided for six months at Lowell, while writing for the *Middlesex Standard*, and his experiences at that time were embodied in "The Stranger in Lowell." From 1847 to 1859, he was a contributor to the *National Era* of Washington, and was for some time its associate editor. Later when the *Atlantic Monthly* was established, he became one of its brilliant corps of writers. In 1857 his mother died, after having lived to see her distinguished son well along upon the highway of fame.

Mr. Whittier continued to be a resident of Amesbury for a portion of the year, at least, until the close of his life, and there he has been laid to rest. After the death of his sister in 1864, a niece came to preside over the household, which was finally broken up at her marriage. After 1876, he made his home principally with relatives at Danvers or with friends at Newburyport. His publishers dealt gener-

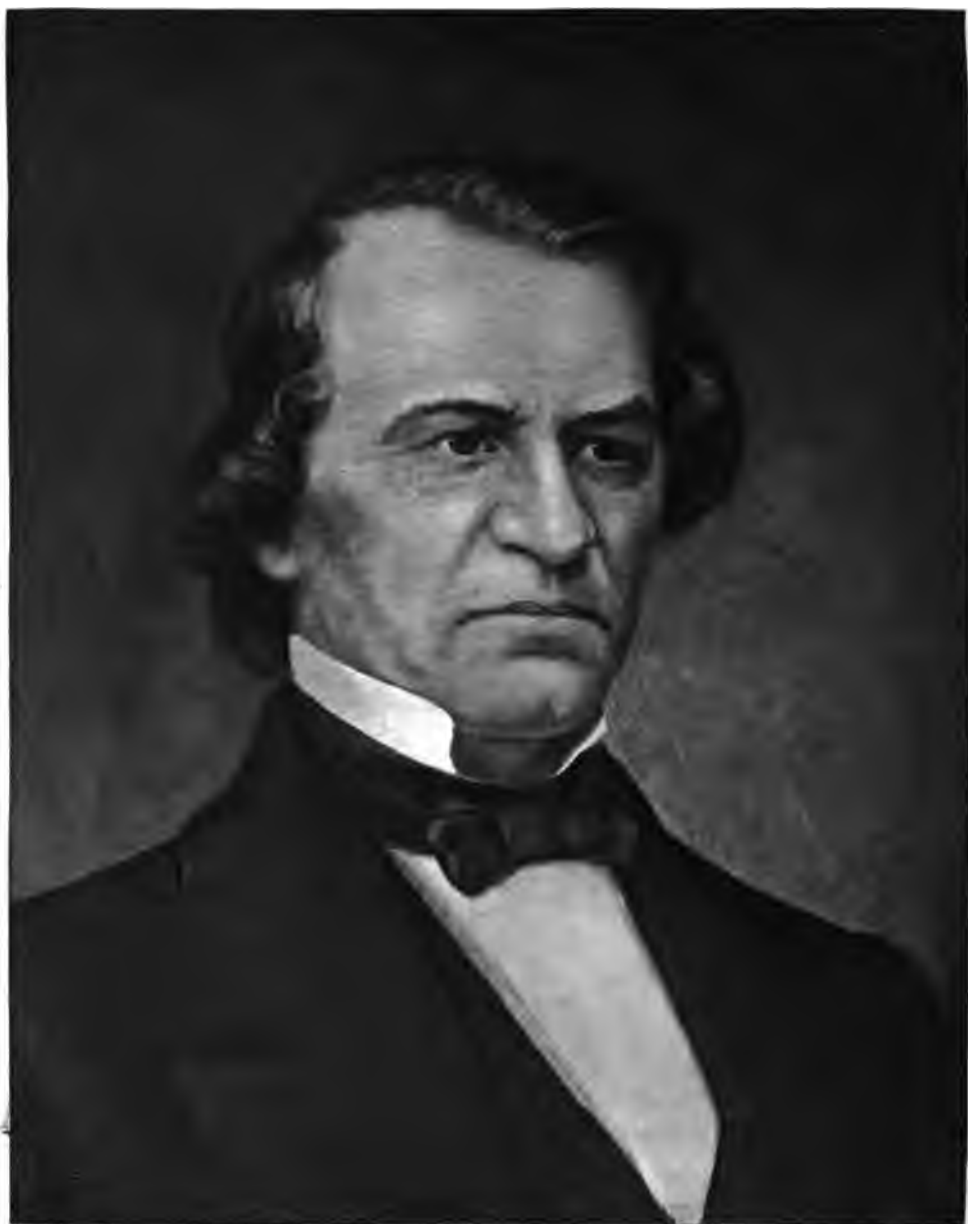
JOHN G. WHITTIER.

ously with him, enabling him to spend the evening of his days surrounded by every possible comfort, and in the possession of moderate wealth. With a constitution far from rugged, he succeeded by the exercise of judicious care in preserving his health and strength far beyond the allotted time of man. In 1889 a new edition of his complete works was published, to which he added many new notes. Harvard conferred upon him the degree of A.M. in 1860, and of LL.D. in 1886. His eighty-fourth birthday was celebrated in December, 1891, at the residence of Mr. Joseph Cartland, at Newburyport, and as usual on these anniversaries, he was the recipient of numerous tokens of affection from friends in all parts of the country. Advancing years brought with them no diminution of the poetic fire, and there is no trace of senility in his last bits of verse, birthday tributes to Dr. Holmes, written only a few weeks before the end of his well spent life. Mr. Whittier died September 7, 1892, at Hampton Falls, N. H., while visiting friends, and there is none to take his place in literature or in the affections of the people.





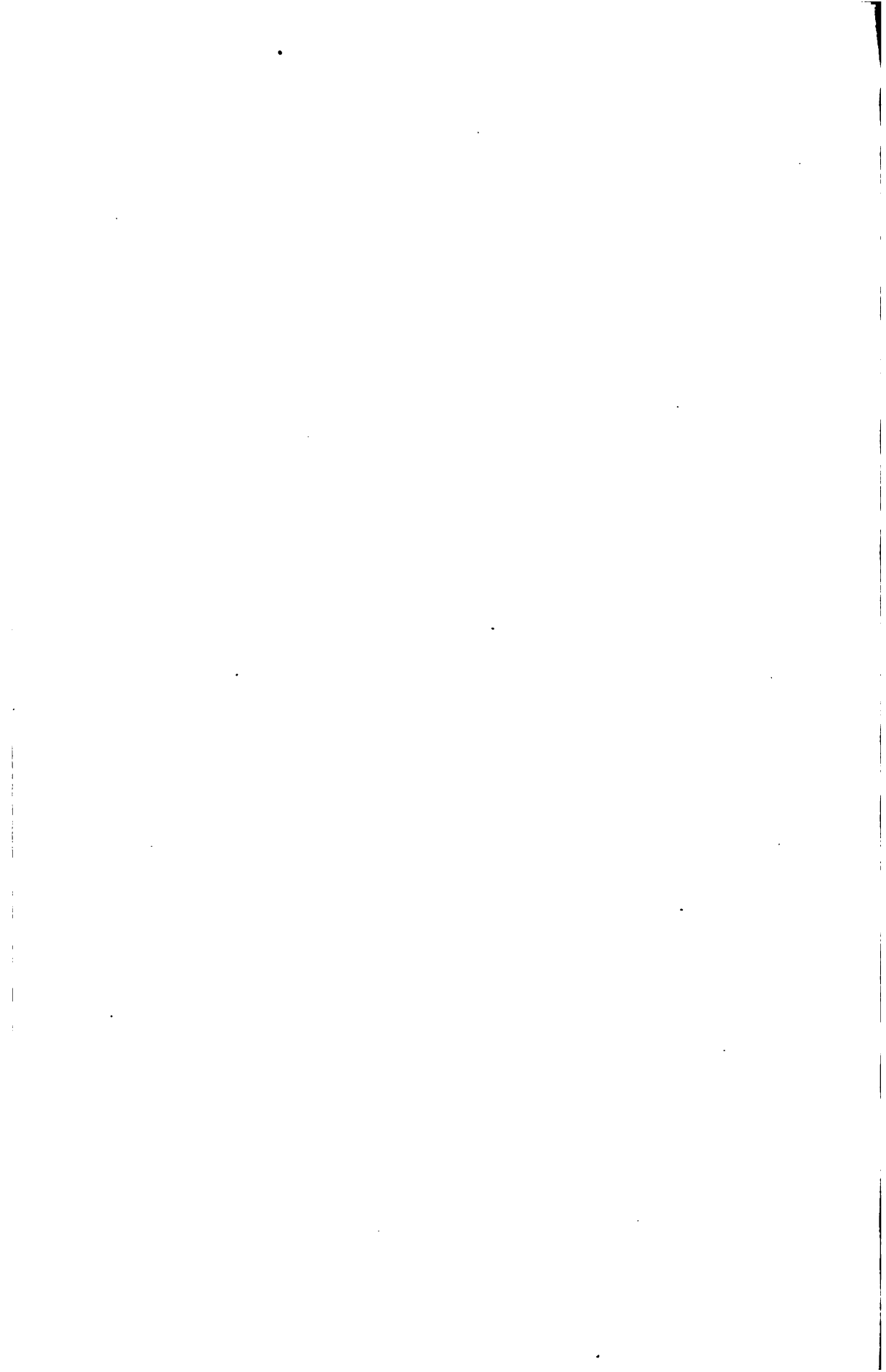
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ANDREW JOHNSON.

From the painting by E. F. Andrews in the Corcoran Gallery.



ANDREW JOHNSON.



WHILE we are forced to confess that wealth and high social position are often important factors in the political advancement of individuals, even in this land of republican equality, they are not of course always essential. Obscurity of birth is popularly supposed to be no bar to such advancement, although a reasonably good education is usually looked for in those who desire to become servants of the people; but it too often happens that men of neither birth, breeding nor fair intellectual development are placed in positions of trust. If, as is sometimes the case, these persons are also morally deficient, the result can only be bad, and the fact that such things are possible, constitutes one of the most dangerous weaknesses in our form of government. When, however, the lack of culture and education is offset by natural executive ability and honesty of purpose, such men have made highly efficient public officers. They have not often risen to any very considerable height, being usually contented with some municipal office, or have occasionally attained to a seat in Congress. Exceptions to this rule have not been rare, but perhaps the most remarkable of them all is to be found in the career of Andrew Johnson, the seventeenth President of the United States.

He was born in Raleigh, N. C., December 29, 1808. The pedigree hunters have in his case been completely baffled,

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and it has only been ascertained that his father was a good-natured, shiftless individual, who held the position of Constable, and was fortunate enough to secure a favorable epitaph from a newspaper editor whom he had saved from drowning. Andrew was four years old when his father died, and at the age of ten he was bound apprentice to a tailor for the term of seven years, as was then customary. That he learned his trade thoroughly, and became a good workman, is, of course, entirely to his credit, and in no manner detracts aught from the dignity of any position which he subsequently filled. He continued at his bench for many years after he had become actively engaged in politics, and indeed, made a complete suit of clothes, in a workmanlike manner, as late as 1853, when he was Governor of the State of Tennessee, in return for a shovel and pair of tongs which were made for him by a judge who had begun life as a blacksmith, the object of both gentlemen being to show that they were not ashamed of having learned honorable trades. Mr. Johnson was, perhaps, even too much disposed to take pride in alluding to his early employment. He did not quite complete his apprenticeship, but ran away from his master in 1824. He never attended any college, academy, or school in his life, but while learning his trade, he also learned to read from some books which came in his way, with the assistance, perhaps, of some fellow-workman.

When he left Raleigh, he made his way to Laurens Court House in South Carolina, and there obtained employment as a journeyman tailor. He earned good wages, and having laid by a moderate sum of money he returned to Raleigh at the end of two years, and taking his mother with him, emigrated westward into Tennessee. At Greenville in that State, he opened a small shop, and soon afterward married. If he signed the marriage register he must have done so by making his mark, as he was at this time unable to write his name. His wife, the daughter of a shoemaker, was some-

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what more accomplished than himself, and in course of time taught him to write and cipher. Both were ignorant of the rules of grammar, and always remained so. After prospecting a little further, he returned to Greenville, and there fixed his abode permanently. He was quite successful in business and before long began to invest in real estate. He became highly popular with the young men of the town, and also with the working people, who were captivated by his plain and homely eloquence and his utter lack of ostentation. Before he was of age he was elected Alderman, and in 1830 he became mayor of the town. This office he held for three years, and he had the further audacity to procure his election as one of the Trustees of the Academy, being by no means, however, the first illiterate man who has thought himself competent to fill such a position.

Andrew Johnson was at this time of his life, clearly "one of the boys," and at no subsequent period did he ever entirely divest himself of that natural coarseness of manner which these associations greatly aggravated. At the same time he gained a reputation for honesty which was undoubtedly well merited, and for firmness which too often degenerated into obstinacy. Among his worst failings were profanity and intemperance, his fits of intoxication becoming more and more frequent toward the close of his life. At the first election under the new Tennessee Constitution of 1834, he presented himself as a candidate for the State Legislature. The aristocratic leaders of the Tennessee democracy were disgusted with his presumption, but the politician and his large following were too powerful to be ignored, and he received the election. Owing to his opposition to certain measures of internal improvement which happened to be popular, he was defeated in 1837, but at the ensuing election of 1839, public opinion having undergone a change, he was again chosen a member of the Legislature. During the National Campaign of 1836, he supported Hugh

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L. White of Tennessee, one of the four candidates among whom the Whig electoral vote was, in that year, divided; but four years later he supported Van Buren, the regular Democratic nominee, and was himself chosen a presidential elector. In 1841 he was elected to the State Senate.

In 1843 Mr. Johnson entered Congress, of which he remained a member for ten years. On most points he was in accord with the Southern Democratic leaders; with regard to negro slavery, which they regarded as the *sine qua non* of the prosperity of their section, he was quite indifferent. He was a slave owner and a slave trader, and naturally his vote was cast in favor of all the measures which were concocted for fostering and extending slavery, but at the same time he emphatically denounced the disloyal utterances of Southern members, and on one important question he was in direct opposition to the majority of them. Next to his unwavering devotion to the Union, his most honorable claim to distinction was his earnest labor in behalf of the National Homestead law which brought him into antagonism with the landed slaveholding aristocracy. At the close of his fifth congressional term in 1853, Andrew Johnson was elected Governor of Tennessee.

Governor Johnson's administration, which lasted four years, was an able one, though unmarked by any events of special interest. In 1857 he was elected to the United States Senate, and in December of that year, this "poor white" tailor took his seat in that dignified body. As the other Southern members became more and more outspoken in their treason, he firmly maintained his ground in opposition to them. In May, 1858, he made a masterly speech in behalf of the Homestead Bill which was not, however, passed by both houses until 1860, and then only to be vetoed by President Buchanan, greatly to the indignation of the Tennessee senator. The bill became a law in 1862. Mr. Johnson's name was proposed in the Democratic convention of

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1860, as a candidate for President, but it was withdrawn after the thirty-eighth ballot. In the ensuing election he supported Mr. Breckinridge, but when, in consequence of Mr. Lincoln's election, the great majority of the Southern Senators and Representatives in Congress withdrew, Andrew Johnson remained true to his country and retained his seat. For this he was denounced by the rebel authorities, and burned in effigy, his negroes were confiscated, and his invalid wife driven from her home. Both in Congress and out of it, he spoke noble words in defence of the Union, and his arguments had great weight in keeping the border States from following their Southern sisters in their course of folly.

On the 5th of March, 1862, Senator Johnson was appointed by President Lincoln, Military Governor of Tennessee with the rank of brigadier-general. A week later he arrived at Nashville, which had recently been occupied by the Federal troops, and assumed control of the State Government. He removed the mayor, and other disloyal officials, silenced the clergy, who were almost all rebel sympathizers, and took vigorous measures to prepare the way for Tennessee's restoration to her place in the Union. In 1864 he received the Republican nomination for Vice-President, as a compliment to that wing of the old Democratic party to which he belonged, and which had heartily coöperated in suppressing the Rebellion; and, with Mr. Lincoln, he was elected by a large majority. He was inaugurated Vice-President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1865, his address and his personal condition on that occasion being in the highest degree discreditable. As is well known, he had held his office just six weeks, when, by the assassination of President Lincoln, the Chief Magistracy of the Nation devolved upon him.

Though thus suddenly called upon to assume such high responsibility, he proved himself qualified to deal with the embarrassing difficulties with which he was confronted. The

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question of supreme importance was the restoration of order and good government in the revolted States which had been forced back to their allegiance. Mr. Johnson was disposed to deal generously with the late enemies of his country while taking due precaution to maintain the authority of the National Government. The policy pursued by him was for some time entirely satisfactory to the people, both North and South, except only to some irreconcilable extremists in each section; but, upon the assembling of Congress in December, some dissatisfaction began to be manifested in that body, which was disposed to be somewhat more severe toward the eleven "unreconstructed" States. Yet in January, 1866, a resolution of confidence in the President passed the House by a large majority. Unfortunately, Mr. Johnson took violent offence at the Congressional opposition to his "policy," and publicly expressed his resentment against certain members, by name, in a very indecorous manner. From this time onward the breach between the legislative and the executive branches of the Government rapidly widened, producing deplorable results.

President Johnson exercised the veto power very freely, but in many cases the measures so rejected by him became laws by a two-thirds vote of the two Houses. In July, 1866, three members of his Cabinet resigned on account of their disapproval of the calling of a Convention at Philadelphia to endorse his reconstruction policy. This Convention, which met in August, was offset by another, held a month later, and composed of opponents of the President, who was himself at the time making that famous journey to Chicago popularly known as "swinging round the circle," in which the country witnessed the doubly mortifying spectacle of a President indulging in coarse vituperation against the majority in Congress, and of the people, at many points, receiving their Chief Magistrate with jeers and insult. In the closing session of the Thirty-Ninth Congress acts were passed, over

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vetoed of course, whereby the power of the President to remove from office was materially curtailed, and military governments were established in ten of the lately revolted States — Tennessee having been fully restored. Mr. Johnson, very unwisely, to say the least, repeatedly violated the spirit, if not the letter of these acts, and attempted, with partial success, to defeat the objects aimed at by Congress in their passage. This conduct was so displeasing to the majority in both Houses, that it was proposed, if possible, to remove the President from office by the constitutional method of impeachment.

A resolution for this purpose was defeated in the House of Representatives in December, 1867, but the subsequent action of the President in attempting to remove from office the Secretary of War, without the necessary advice and consent of the Senate, proved to be the last straw in his offending, and after the requisite preliminaries he was formally impeached before the Senate by a committee of the House of Representatives on the 4th of March, 1868. On the following day the Senate was organized as a Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, Salmon P. Chase, as prescribed in the Constitution, and thus, for the first and only time in the history of our country was a President of the United States brought to trial for "high crimes and misdemeanors." This famous trial began on the 30th of March, 1868, and continued until the 26th of May. Eleven counts or articles of impeachment were preferred, only three of which were finally acted upon, and in each case thirty-five Senators voted "Guilty" and nineteen "Not Guilty." The necessary two-thirds not having pronounced him guilty, the President was consequently acquitted. During the remainder of his administration Mr. Johnson continued his opposition to Congress, and as far as lay in his power, restored to a full enjoyment of all their former privileges those persons who had been in arms against the Government. He sullenly re-

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fused to take any part in the inaugural ceremonies of his successor, General Grant. One State, Nebraska, was admitted during his administration, and the territory of Alaska was purchased from Russia.

Andrew Johnson, after retiring from the presidency, issued an address to the people in defence of his conduct while in office, and strongly condemnatory of his opponents. He returned to his home at Greenville, but not to rest, for he soon plunged anew into the turmoil of politics. He was a candidate for the United States Senatorship in 1870, and for Representative in Congress in 1872, and on each occasion he met with defeat, but in January, 1875, he was elected to the Senate. He lived only a short time to enjoy his new honors. On the 28th of July, 1875, he was stricken with paralysis while visiting a married daughter in Carter County, Tenn., and he died on the 31st, having been an active politician for forty-seven years.





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EDGAR A. POE.

From the latest known portrait of the unfortunate poet.

EDGAR ALLAN POE.



AMONG the great writers of America there have been few men of more brilliant genius than the unfortunate poet and novelist whose life we are now to consider. Conflicting accounts have been given both of the date and place of his birth, but it appears to be pretty definitely settled that it occurred at Boston on the 19th of January, 1809. His parents, who were actors, died at Richmond, Va., within a few weeks of each other, leaving him, at a tender age, utterly destitute—the exact date being again in dispute. A gentleman of wealth, named Allan, who had been familiar with the Poes, adopted the orphaned boy, and provided generously for him. While yet very young, Poe attracted much attention by the ease with which he committed to memory long passages of verse, and the charming manner in which he recited them. In 1815, he was taken to England by the Allan family, and was placed at school at Stoke-Newington, one of the suburbs of London, where he remained for the space of about five years. After returning to America, he continued to reside with Mr. Allan at Richmond for five years longer, during which time he attended a classical school. He was an apt scholar, active and strong, an expert swimmer, and made many friends. He began also, thus early in life, to develop a remarkable talent for extemporaneous storytelling.

Poe entered the University of Virginia in 1825, and during

the year which he spent at that institution, he laid the foundation of those habits of gross dissipation which became the curse of his existence, imparting to many of his writings a weird and ghoulish character, and terminating in ruin and death. He was expelled from the University for intoxication and gambling, and with regard to the next few years of his life we are once more puzzled to reconcile the different authorities. One account sends him, after leaving his guardian's house in a rage because the draft to pay his gambling debts were dishonored, to Europe, fired with the desire to emulate Byron by fighting for the Greeks, only, however, to get himself into trouble at St. Petersburg and be sent home by the American minister. Another, and probably a more reliable account states that he entered the United States army under an assumed name, in May, 1827, and having risen to the rank of sergeant-major, effected a reconciliation with Mr. Allan, through whose efforts he received his discharge in April, 1829. It is certain that he temporarily regained the favor of his patron, and that he was admitted to a cadetship at West Point, in 1830. He published a volume of poems anonymously at Boston in 1827, and another with his name, at Baltimore, two years later.

Poe's life at the military academy was only a repetition of what it had been at the university; he was a favorite with his mess and even with the officers, but he indulged his habits of dissipation without restraint, to the total neglect of all study. He left West Point in December, 1830, resigning, according to his own statement; but in the following March, he was formally dismissed the service, having been found guilty of neglect of duty and disobedience of orders, by a court martial. Shortly afterward, he published, by subscriptions obtained principally from the Corps of Cadets, another small volume of poems, one which seems not to have added very largely to his reputation, and which has shared the common fate of such immature productions. None of

Poe's biographers has done any more than to guess at what he did during the next two years; but the summer of 1833 found him in Baltimore, where he made his home with an aunt, a widow with one daughter, Virginia Clemm, then a girl of eleven. In October of this year he was the fortunate winner of a prize of one hundred dollars which had been offered by the proprietors of the *Saturday Visitor*, for the best tale which should be sent to them. One of the judges in the contest was John P. Kennedy, who, moved with compassion on account of Poe's poverty and distress, provided him with clothes and other comforts, and found for him such literary hack-work as kept him from starvation for a year or two. His writings now began to be received with considerable favor by the public, and friends were not lacking to assist and encourage; but, unhappily, the power of his will was insufficient to resist the habit of intemperance, and he became increasingly subject to fits of deep mental depression.

In September, 1835, Poe accepted the assistant-editorship of the *Southern Literary Messenger* at Richmond, and it is said that before removing from Baltimore he was married to his cousin Virginia, though the story is hardly susceptible of proof. The Clemms accompanied him to Baltimore, however, and he continued to reside with them, and on the 16th of May, 1836, the two penniless cousins were publicly married, the bride being but fourteen years of age, while Poe was nearly that many years her senior. His constant devotion to his child-wife, already stricken by the insidious hand of disease, forms the brightest page in his mournful history. For some time he worked diligently, contributing to the *Messenger* a profusion of tales and critical reviews; but various causes combined to produce a misunderstanding between the eccentric sub-editor and his chief, and in consequence Poe withdrew in January, 1837. During the ensuing year he was without regular employment, but wandered with his wife to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New

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York, selling the products of his fertile brain to whoever would pay him for them. At this time he wrote the longest of his novels, "The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym, of Nantucket," which was published by the Harpers early in 1838, and was republished in England, where some of the country editors were so misled by the peculiar gravity of Poe's style, as to print extracts from the work as genuine "discoveries" of an actual navigator.

In the fall of 1838 he went to Philadelphia, and became a contributor to the "Gentleman's Magazine." In May, 1839, he assumed the duties of editor at a salary of ten dollars a week, being obliged, however, to devote but two hours a day to the management of the magazine. This left him much leisure time, which was sedulously employed in writing fiction for which he was but poorly paid. It was a hand to mouth existence at the best, and during his intervals of reckless indulgence, he was in a state of abject poverty. Among this year's productions were his "Tales of the Grotesque" and his "Conchologist's First Book." In 1840 the magazine was enlarged and the name changed to "Graham's," Poe being retained as editor. The subscription list increased rapidly, and soon "Graham's Magazine" stood in the front rank of American periodicals. Some of Poe's most powerful fiction and most caustic criticism appeared during this time. "The Murders of the Rue Morgue," which was written in 1841, was pirated by two different French writers, and a lawsuit between the rival journals in which the translations were published, led to the discovery of the real author, who soon acquired great popularity in France. One of Poe's whimseys was the idea that no cryptogram or cipher could be devised which could not be unravelled by human ingenuity, and he actually deciphered several very intricate ones which were sent to him for the purpose of testing the correctness of his theory. It was also in the year 1841, that Poe first met Griswold, the earliest and most unkind of his biogra-

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phers, and who, most unfortunately for the memory of the former, was entrusted with the disposal of all his papers after his death.

Poe's employers in Philadelphia manifested great kindness towards him, and repeatedly overlooked his irregularities and his querulous moods; but the limit of forbearance was reached in the fall of 1842, and he was compelled to resign his position. In addition to his other causes of distress, his wife was now a confirmed invalid, requiring constant attention; the certainty of a fatal termination to her illness greatly aggravated his fits of despondency, and his own health became sadly undermined. A year or two of struggles and deprivation now ensued, in the course of which he composed one of his most remarkable stories, the "Gold Bug," for which he was awarded a prize of a hundred dollars by the proprietors of the "Dollar Monthly." At length, toward the close of 1844, he removed from Philadelphia to New York. His fame as a writer had preceded him, and so, alas, had the reputation of his failings; but he succeeded in obtaining the position of sub-editor and critic on the *Evening Mirror*, then owned by Nathaniel P. Willis. He disappointed all expectations by his punctuality and his close application to duty, and the brief period of his connection with the *Mirror* was rendered memorable by the appearance of the greatest of his poems, the one which gave him enduring fame, and which has taken its place among the classics of the language — "The Raven."

In the spring of 1845, Poe joined the editorial staff of the *Broadway Journal*, a periodical whose course, then just commenced, was quickly run. In July he assumed its sole supervision, and in October he became its nominal owner. His attention to business became more and more spasmodic. He would frequently reprint some of his old productions rather than exert himself for fresh efforts, and he occasionally appeared in public on the platform. A lecture on American

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Poe was well received in New York in March, 1845, and in the fall of that year he entertained a Boston audience with a long and incomprehensible poem, which he supplemented with a very fine rendering of "The Raven." In January, 1846, the *Broadway Journal* ceased to exist, and Poe was again reduced to a dependence upon chance purchasers of his compositions. A series of articles on the "Literati of New York" proved quite popular with the reading public, but was hardly relished by those authors who became the objects of his pitiless criticisms. In the summer of this year he took a small cottage at Fordham, admirably suited for a poet's home, and there for a few months he enjoyed the last gleams of happiness which were to fall to his lot, beclouded as they were with poverty, sickness and suffering. The family became so destitute that in December, 1846, the contributions of friends and admirers in their aid was found to be a necessity.

The death of the young wife in January, 1847, was a blow which though long expected, fell with crushing effect upon the poet's highly sensitive organization. During the next year he accomplished little if anything beyond the composition of his so-called prose poem, "Eureka," which bears evident marks of an intellect deranged by poignant grief. Poe was never able to stand alone, and the loss of his idolized companion was fatal, although he was watched over with the most tender solicitude by his aunt, his wife's mother. In 1848 he delivered a few lectures in New York and other cities for the purpose of raising money to start a magazine of his own — always a darling project with him. After this time he wrote nothing of importance; his debauches became more frequent and his periods of sobriety more limited. Late in the summer of 1849, he left his home at Fordham for a Southern tour, but he fell, through the temptation of evil companions in Philadelphia, and was obliged to depend on charity for the means to continue his journey to Richmond.

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In the latter city, after repeatedly yielding to the baser impulses of his nature, he was taken in charge by his friends, decently clothed, and furnished with an office in which to write.

Apparently a reform had been accomplished. He delivered a lecture on temperance which was patronized by the *élite* of the city, and once more he found a welcome in good society. Furthermore, his addresses were accepted by a widow lady with whom he had been on friendly terms in his more youthful days, and preparations for a wedding were nearly completed when he undertook a short business trip to Philadelphia and New York. He reached Baltimore on the 3d of October in a state of delirium. While in this condition he was seized by a gang of roughs, and, it being election day, he was forced to vote in as many polling places as he could be dragged to, and then left to his fate. He was discovered insensible, and conveyed to an hospital where, four days later, October 7, 1849, he died, having reached only his forty-first year; a sad closing to one of the saddest careers which the biographer was ever called upon to record.







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ABRAHAM LINCOLN
1809-1865

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

From life.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.



HE Martyr-President, he who holds, second only to Washington himself, the highest place in the hearts of his loyal countrymen, was born in the wilds of Kentucky, February 12, 1809. Here he lived, his home a cabin of the rudest description, until he was seven years old, when his father, who was a farmer of the poorer class, went with his family westward into the State of Indiana, hoping to find a more favorable location. Twelve years or more of toil ensued, participated in from the outset to the fullest extent of his ability by the future president, who thus became thoroughly inured to the hardships of a backwoodsman's life. During the period of his boyhood and youth, he obtained barely one year's schooling, all told, and very inferior schooling at that. The mother soon sickened and died, and Thomas Lincoln presently brought home another helpmeet, a widow with three children. The new wife, a woman of energy who brought some little property with her, took a kindly interest in the orphaned children, and something of an improvement was made in the Lincoln home. Abraham had managed to learn to read while yet in Kentucky, and what books he could find in the growing Indiana settlement, were eagerly devoured. Limited though his opportunities might be, they were most faithfully improved, and he formed the invaluable habit of acquiring a thorough mastery of every branch of study to which he applied himself. At school he often proved the peer or

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even the superior of the teacher, what he read was carefully stored away in his mind, and he developed a more than ordinary faculty for imparting to others what he had himself learned, in the form of a story, essay or oration. He was likewise a willing worker, and being stout and strong, though tall and awkward withal, he was much sought after by the neighbors as a farm hand. Of a social nature, he learned, by thus going among the people, much of their habits, and of the politics of the day; and a copy of the Revised Statutes of Indiana, which he read at the home of a friend, gave him some insight into the law. His interest in legal matters was heightened by listening to the arguments of the lawyers at the County Court, which young Lincoln would walk fifteen miles to attend, when he could find opportunity to do so.

Abraham Lincoln made his first extended journey out into the world at the age of nineteen, as bowhand on a flatboat. The voyage down the Ohio and the Mississippi to New Orleans occupied some three months, and its novel experiences were of far greater value to him than the salary which he received, eight dollars a month, rations, and a pre-paid return passage by steamboat. He saw enough of African slavery during this trip and his subsequent one to make him its earnest opponent. In 1830, the family made another move westward, and settled near Decatur, in Illinois. Abraham was now of age, and after assisting in the erection of the new home, he left the paternal roof forever. The summer of 1831 found him at New Salem in charge of a general country store and a flouring mill, having just returned from a second flatboat journey to New Orleans. The annual election occurring soon after his arrival, he was appointed election clerk, his first public office. His good-nature and honesty made him a prime favorite among the citizens, while his muscular development and his skill as a wrestler, won the respect and admiration of the more dis-

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orderly members of the community. All his spare time was devoted to study, every book and newspaper which he could by any means procure being carefully perused. Embracing the political opinions of Henry Clay, he acquired, in a short time, considerable local fame as a public speaker, and as a debater he had no successful rival. The suspension of business by his employer in the spring of 1832, left him out of work, and he performed for a brief time the duties of a soldier, this being his only military experience until the time when he should be called upon to assume the supreme command of the armies and fleets of the United States.

Black Hawk, the renowned Sac chief, by his outrages on the frontier settlers of Illinois, had precipitated the war which is known by his name; the governor called out the militia for defence and Lincoln was among the volunteers. He was chosen captain of his company, but his troops proving mutinous, they were disbanded and he served through the remainder of the war as a private. The campaign lasted only a few months, and after the settlement of the difficulties, Lincoln returned to New Salem without having seen an engagement. He had been induced to offer himself as a candidate for the State Legislature, but was not at this time elected, although he received the almost unanimous vote of his own village. He now made a second trial of mercantile life, becoming part owner of a store, but fortunately for his country, he failed completely. His partner turned out to be a worthless fellow, and he gained nothing by his venture but fresh debts. He was appointed postmaster in 1833, and tradition says that he carried the post-office in his hat. The next occupation in which he was engaged was that of a land surveyor, and having mastered the principles of his profession, he followed it with success and profit for several years; but the crisis of 1837 ruined his business, and he was even obliged to part with his instruments in order to satisfy the sheriff's execution. Meanwhile he prosecuted his law studies

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in a desultory way, and even pleaded a few cases in court, for which, however, he received no recompense.

In 1834 Mr. Lincoln was elected to the Illinois Legislature, being yet so poor that he was forced to borrow money to buy clothes enough to make a respectable appearance at the State capital, and he held his seat for eight years. His party, which was in the minority, soon came to regard him as its leader, and he was twice the Whig candidate for Speaker. He took occasion to express his dissent from the extreme pro-slavery resolution passed by the House, taking that moderate position on the most important question of the day, to which he constantly adhered until forced to take a more radical view by the folly and crime of the slaveholders themselves. When the seat of Government was removed from Vandalia to Springfield in 1837, Mr. Lincoln settled permanently in the latter city. He was admitted to the bar in 1836.

After the close of his service in the legislature, Mr. Lincoln devoted his entire attention to his practice for several years, except during the presidential campaign of 1844, when he stumped Illinois in behalf of Henry Clay, feeling the disappointment of the great Whig leader's defeat very keenly. It is said that his admiration for Clay was much diminished by the somewhat haughty bearing of the latter upon the occasion of a meeting between the two a little while later, in Kentucky. At all events, Lincoln, who was a member of the Whig National Convention of 1848, favored the nomination of Zachary Taylor, and afterward aided materially in the canvass. In November, 1842, he was married to Mary Todd. The distinguished statesman and diplomatist, Robert T. Lincoln, is the only survivor of his children. Abraham Lincoln was already a successful lawyer when he was called upon, in 1847, to represent his district in Congress, being the only Whig member of the Illinois delegation.

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He remained in Congress only a single term, during which he acted in accord with the principles of his party in general, except that he maintained an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the extension of slavery. He made a brief visit to New England in 1848, speaking in favor of General Taylor, but most of his time in this canvass was spent in the West. After Taylor's election, he did not again take any prominent part in politics until 1854, his support of General Scott in 1852 being only half-hearted, as he clearly foresaw the downfall of the Whigs, now so hopelessly divided among themselves on the question of slavery. In January, 1854, the Imp of Discord moved Stephen A. Douglas, Senator from Illinois, to introduce into the United States Senate, the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, embodying his specious theories of "Squatter Sovereignty," nullifying the Missouri Compromise, and permitting the extension, North and West, of that foul blot upon our civilization which had for generations rested like an incubus upon the States of the South. The bill became a law in May, and Mr. Lincoln shared in the general indignation which was aroused at the North. In the ensuing fall he held two memorable public discussions with Senator Douglas in which he exposed, in a masterly manner, the fallacies of his antagonist's arguments. Shortly afterward the Illinois Legislature met to choose a colleague for Mr. Douglas. Lincoln was a candidate, but after several ballots he directed his friends to give their support to Lyman Trumbull, an anti-Douglas Democrat, who was consequently elected.

In 1856, Abraham Lincoln was one of the foremost among the leaders in the movement which resulted in the formation of the Republican Party, and he received considerable support in the first National Convention of that party as candidate for the Vice-Presidential nomination. He was as yet comparatively unknown outside of his own State, but the famous senatorial contest in 1858 gave him a brilliant

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national reputation as a statesman and a consummate master of debate. The Illinois Legislature, which was chosen in that year, was to elect a successor to Senator Douglas, and both parties selected in advance the candidates for whom the Legislature should ballot, Mr. Douglas being named for reelection by the Democrats, while Mr. Lincoln was the choice of the Republicans. Seven joint debates took place between the two at different points in the State, and the public excitement was wrought up to the highest pitch. In view of the fact that Southern politicians subsequently represented Mr. Lincoln to their people as an Abolitionist monster whose aim was to rob them of their slaves, it is proper to state that during these debates he steadily adhered to the position which he had always taken—that Congress ought not, could not interfere with slavery where it was already established, and he distinctly announced that he did not favor giving to colored people the rights of citizenship. The contest resulted in Mr. Douglas's reelection, although Mr. Lincoln had received a plurality of the popular vote.

The renown acquired by Mr. Lincoln in this canvass was increased by his public addresses in various parts of the country during the following year and in the early part of 1860, and especially by a very powerful speech delivered in the Cooper Institute at New York, in February of the latter year. The Republicans of Illinois at their convention in May, 1859, nominated him for president, yet it was generally thought that William H. Seward would be the Republican candidate, until the convention, which met at Chicago in May, 1860, made choice of Mr. Lincoln upon the third ballot. At the election in the following November, he received one hundred and eighty electoral votes, the remaining one hundred and twenty-three being divided among three competitors, Breckenridge, Bell and Douglas. Immediately the traitors at the South put their machinery at work to destroy the Union. By the 1st of February, 1861, seven States had

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resolved themselves into independent sovereignties, and ten days later Mr. Lincoln left his modest home in Springfield for Washington. He was received with enthusiasm in the different cities on the route; but upon arriving at Philadelphia he was warned of a plot for his assassination while passing through Baltimore. At the solicitations of his friends, he changed his plans slightly, so as to arrive at Washington early on the morning of February 23d, some twelve hours before he was expected. On the 4th of March, 1861, he was inaugurated President of the United States, and assumed the gravest responsibilities that ever rested upon an American citizen.

The history of Mr. Lincoln's administration is essentially one with that of the most wicked of all rebellions against just and lawful government. When he took the oath of office, seven States were leagued together in open defiance of the national authority, and four more soon followed their evil example. Several weeks elapsed before it became evident what the course of the President would be in this unprecedented emergency, and some good people even began to fear that he was going to pursue the same weak and halting policy as his predecessor had done; but, in his wisdom, he had determined that in the great war which was seen to be inevitable, the enemies of his country should strike the first blow. On April 12, 1861, Sumter was fired upon, and "the last ray of hope for preserving the Union peaceably expired." Troops were called for to defend the National Capital, and retake the property of the Government which had fallen into rebel hands. The regular army and the navy were augmented, and by proclamation the President closed the ports of the South Atlantic and Gulf States. Congress having been summoned to meet in extra session in July, confirmed all these acts of the executive, and conferred upon Mr. Lincoln ample powers to subdue the rebellion.

His first care was to provide for the safety of the city of

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Washington ; that accomplished, the difficult task followed of so ordering the aggressive movements of the different armies as not to needlessly irritate the people of the border States who were wavering in their allegiance. Thousands upon thousands of brave soldiers hastened to the front, but a thoroughly competent leader was yet to be found. The first advance of the undisciplined and over-confident troops resulted in the mortifying defeat of Bull Run in July. The Commander-in-Chief, Winfield Scott, the hero of two wars, unfitted by his age and infirmities to cope with a powerful and well prepared foe, resigned, and was succeeded in November by General McClellan. The latter enjoyed temporarily a wonderful degree of popularity, but he disappointed the hopes of President and people, and his command was, in March, 1862, limited to the Army of the Potomac. His plans did not commend themselves to Mr. Lincoln, but the President deferred to the acknowledged military ability of his subordinate, until McClellan, after a most aggravating series of delays, was finally obliged to retreat before the foe after the disastrous peninsular campaign in the spring and summer of 1862. The first two years of the war were unfavorable to the national arms; so unfavorable, that many at the North lost heart, while Northern sympathizers with treason, known as "Copperheads," began to talk loudly of compromise or surrender. In order to deal with the latter class of persons, Mr. Lincoln was forced to suspend the act of habeas corpus. European powers freely gave aid and comfort to the rebels, and all but acknowledged their independence. Amid all this storm of disaster, the Man at the Helm, Abraham Lincoln, was true as steel, and guided the tempest-tossed Ship of State with consummate wisdom, though weighed down by the cares of his high office, to which also was added a severe domestic affliction in the loss of his twelve-year-old son, Willie.

The Northern people were at length brought to realize

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that no permanent peace could ever be established until the great cause of the whole trouble — slavery — was removed. Early in 1862, it was abolished in the Territories and in the District of Columbia, where the jurisdiction of Congress was supreme, and in accordance with Mr. Lincoln's recommendation, plans were discussed, and partially adopted, by which the general government should aid the States in providing for gradual emancipation, and the colonization of those freedmen who might be willing to leave the country; but the blind obstinacy of the Southern leaders, who were determined to cling at all hazards to their scheme for an independent slave-holding nation, rendered these plans of no effect. Harsher measures were necessary, and after a preliminary warning, which was totally unheeded, President Lincoln, on the 1st of January, 1863, issued his famous proclamation, by which, with a few exceptions, all the slaves in ten States were declared to be forever free.

Two years more of awful carnage; but the tide had turned. One after another the strongholds of the rebels fell before the advance of the Union armies. In the early days of July, 1863, the country was electrified by the almost simultaneous victories of Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the former hurling back the presumptuous foe who dared to set his foot on Northern soil, the latter opening the Great River to commerce, and giving to the nation the long-sought military leader. On the 19th of November, the field of Gettysburg, purchased by the State of Pennsylvania, was consecrated as a national cemetery for the loyal soldiers who had fallen there, upon which occasion Abraham Lincoln made that brief but most famous of all his speeches, in which he urged the Nation to renewed diligence "that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the Earth." On the 9th of March, 1864, he commissioned the hero of Vicksburg Lieutenant-General. A great load was lifted from the shoulders of the

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good President, as he now had a commander for his armies in whom he could repose implicit confidence—Ulysses S. Grant.

In May, 1864, General Grant began his operations for the reduction of the rebel capital, which was defended with a bravery born of despair, and which only succumbed after eleven months of bloodshed more terrible than any ever witnessed by the armies of Wellington or Bonaparte. President Lincoln visited the field of battle in person in June, and returned to Washington, heartsick from the scene of suffering and ruin which had met his eye, but with an unshaken confidence in the final triumph of the right. At the same time Sherman was dealing his giant blows in Georgia, and the nation was in a whirl of excitement, unequalled before or since. In the midst of it all the time arrived for another presidential election. That there should have been any opposition to Mr. Lincoln will be as incomprehensible to our children as is to us the violent opposition which was manifested toward Washington himself. The regular Democratic nominee, General G. B. McClellan, received his support largely from those politicians who had done all in their power to thwart the Government in its attempts to put down the rebellion, while President Lincoln received the suffrages of all loyal men, Democrats as well as Republicans. He was triumphantly reëlected, receiving two hundred and twelve electoral votes, including those of the two States of West Virginia and Nevada, which had been admitted during his administration. McClellan received twenty-one votes, and the eleven rebellious States were disfranchised.

On the 4th of March, 1865, Mr. Lincoln began his second administration. The clouds of war were rapidly rolling away; already the old flag had been replaced above the ruins of Sumter, and in less than a month Richmond was occupied by the Federal troops, and the arch-traitor, Davis, was a

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fugitive. President Lincoln was with the army at City Point, and on April 3d he entered the deserted rebel capital, not with the pomp of the conqueror — for that his great kindly heart would not allow him to do — but to be hailed as the savior of their race by the colored population. His work was accomplished. The enthusiasm of the loyal North at the collapse of the rebellion was unbounded, but it was doomed to receive a fearful check. On the evening of the 14th of April, while seeking a brief respite from the crushing cares of state and the persecutions of a horde of office-seekers, the great President, the best beloved of the rulers of the earth, was shot and fatally wounded by the assassin, Booth, and he died on the following day. Thus was ended the life of a man in whose heart was “malice towards none,” but “charity for all.” Words fail to express the anguish caused by the ruthless act at home, or the detestation with which it was universally regarded abroad. So long as America shall have a name among the nations of the earth, so long will she cherish and revere the name of Abraham Lincoln.





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HANNIBAL HAMLIN.

From life.

HANNIBAL HAMLIN.



HANNIBAL HAMLIN was born in the town of Paris, Me., on the 27th of August, 1809, only a little more than six months later than that illustrious man with whom his name was to be associated ; but his advantages in point of birth and education were much superior to those of President Lincoln. His father was a physician and a farmer, and also held the position of sheriff. His grandfather was a Revolutionary officer. After attending the district school he was sent to the Academy at Hebron, and was there prepared to enter college ; but it was finally decided that another of the six brothers should enjoy that privilege, and Hannibal was in consequence obliged to remain on the farm. After a time he was enabled, by teaching school, to obtain means to purchase books, and he then began to read law, but his studies were interrupted by the death of his father, in 1828, and two years more were spent in agricultural labor. Upon coming of age, in 1830, he became interested in the publication of *The Jeffersonian*, and learned to set type, being likewise a contributor to the journal. He soon sold out, but remained in the printing-office as a workman for some months, after which he resumed the study of the law in the office of William Pitt Fessenden, who was afterwards his colleague in the Senate. He was admitted to the bar, at Paris, in 1833.

He married in the same year, and having settled upon the

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town of Hampden, a few miles from Bangor, as his residence, he entered upon a highly successful career as a lawyer. It was not long before he acquired a favorable reputation as a lyceum orator, and he also became quite active as a Democratic politician. He was a member of the Maine Legislature of 1836, and also during the four succeeding years, serving as Speaker of the House in 1837, and again in 1839 and 1840. In the latter year he received the nomination of his party for Congress. The campaign was a memorable one, being that in which General Harrison was elected to the presidency. Mr. Hamlin introduced into the Pine Tree State upon this occasion the novel feature of personal discussion between the candidates, to add to the excitement; but the great Whig tidal wave reached Maine, at that time considered safely Democratic, and he was defeated. At the next election he was successful, and took his seat, in December, 1843, as a member of the Twenty-Eighth Congress.

Among his first acts in Congress was one which foreshadowed his course with regard to the question of slavery. It was his vote against the celebrated "twenty-first rule" by which the Abolitionists were denied the right of petition. The obnoxious regulation was abrogated at the next session. He also actively opposed the annexation of Texas; not because he was unfavorable to an extension of the national domain, but because he looked with alarm upon any increase of the territory of that section of the country whose prosperity was supposed to depend upon unpaid labor. Mr. Hamlin served two terms in the House. In the Twenty-Ninth Congress he was a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs. Near the close of his second term it fell to his lot to present the amendment known as the "Wilmot Proviso" (its author, David Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, being unavoidably absent), extending the provisions of the Missouri Compromise to the territory which might be acquired from

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Mexico, either by conquest or purchase. The amendment passed the House, as it had done once before, but it never got through the Senate. In 1847 Mr. Hamlin was again a member of the Maine Legislature.

In 1848, by the aid of a few Free Soil votes, he was elected United States Senator, to fill the vacancy caused by the death, in December, 1847, of ex-Governor John Fairfield. He had been a candidate for the Senatorship two years previously, but had failed of an election by the single vote of an over-sensitive member of the Legislature who had taken mortal offence at a bit of good-natured pleasantry on the part of Mr. Hamlin, who was ever fond of his joke. In 1851 he was reelected for the full term, and about this time he abandoned the practice of the law, thenceforth devoting time and talent to the service of his State and Nation, until at an advanced age he retired, with nothing more than a comfortable living, to private life. In the Senate he continued his opposition to all measures for the extension of slavery; but, like Mr. Lincoln, he thought it unwise to interfere with the institution in those States where it already existed. In obedience to his own ideas of justice, as well as to the nearly unanimous voice of the Maine Legislature, he voted against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854, although President Pierce entreated him to act with his party and against his convictions, as he himself did when he signed the Kansas-Nebraska Bill. He maintained his connection with the Democratic party for two years longer, waiting in the vain hope of seeing the beneficial results so confidently promised by the authors of the repeal. The atrocities in Kansas and the unconcealed disloyalty of the Southern members decided him to break with the democracy. On the 12th of June, 1856, in a powerful speech he pointed out why he could no longer act with the majority in Congress, and resigned the chairmanship of the Committee on Commerce. He at once

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joined the Republican party, which had just come into existence.

Mr. Hamlin was not as conspicuous in debate as some of his colleagues, but there was no more indefatigable worker in the Senate. Very much against his inclination, he was, in June, 1856, nominated by the Republicans for the governorship of his native State. Many even of his friends prophesied his defeat, but he entered into the campaign with great earnestness, visiting every important town and hamlet in Maine, and making nearly a hundred speeches during the months of July and August. The election in September resulted in a complete victory for Mr. Hamlin, whose majority was eighteen thousand, more than double that ever given for any previous gubernatorial candidate in Maine. He resigned his seat in the Senate and was inaugurated governor, January 7, 1857. Nine days later he was re-elected to the Senate, and on the 20th of February he resigned the governorship, after an administration which had lasted only six weeks.

The vice-presidency of the United States has sometimes been regarded as an undesirable office, since, as a rule, its holder exercises only a very slight influence in the administration which he may at any moment be called upon to conduct. Statesmen who have eagerly coveted the first place in the Government have scorned the second. When the Republican Convention of 1860, after nominating Abraham Lincoln for the presidency, finished its work by conferring upon Mr. Hamlin its more doubtful honor, he hesitated in his acceptance, until he was assured that refusal would endanger the success of the ticket. At the most momentous election which our country has ever known Hannibal Hamlin was chosen Vice-President. From the very outset he was honored with Mr. Lincoln's confidence, and he retained it during all the four eventful years in which he presided over the deliberations of the National Senate. So cordial

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were the relations between them that it is said that no favor which Mr. Hamlin asked of the President was ever refused. Before the inauguration he was consulted by Mr. Lincoln in regard to the composition of the Cabinet. He advised the selection of William H. Seward as Secretary of State, notified him of his appointment, and urged him to accept. He was also invited to name one of the members himself, and proposed Mr. Welles as the head of the Navy Department. During the war he was frequently called upon by the President for his advice. He earnestly favored the arming of colored troops, and when at length the step was decided upon, he personally carried the necessary orders to the Secretary of War. The draft of the Emancipation Proclamation was likewise submitted to him for his approval. He was active in promoting the welfare of the Union soldiers, and especially attentive to the needs of the Maine troops. In short, in the exercise of every duty, whether appertaining to his high office, or self-imposed, he proved himself a staunch and enlightened patriot.

It is idle to speculate upon the probable turn which affairs would have taken had Mr. Hamlin been reëlected; suffice to say that the wisdom of supplanting him at the close of his term, in 1865, by Andrew Johnson, is very generally doubted at the present day. Certain considerations were supposed to render the change desirable at the time, but they reflected in no way upon the merits or the ability of the "Old Carthaginian." He loyally supported the Republican ticket in 1864, and shortly after his successor became President Mr. Hamlin was appointed collector of the port of Boston. He held this office for only a year, resigning it when he considered it to be his duty to oppose the President in his unfortunate contest with Congress, which, of course, he could not do with propriety so long as he held office under him. After an interval of two years of private life in his half-century of public service he was once more

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elected Senator. He took his seat March 4, 1869, and having been again honored by a reelection in 1875, he held it until March 3, 1881, voluntarily declining to be a candidate for the sixth time. In June following, President Garfield appointed Mr. Hamlin Minister to Spain.

Owing to the President's untimely death, he resigned this position, but was immediately reappointed by President Arthur, and sailed for Europe in October. His diplomatic career was a brief one. He returned to America in January, 1883, followed by the best wishes of the Spanish king and court. He passed the remainder of his life in retirement, in summer cultivating his farm for recreation, and in winter residing at Bangor, its most honored citizen. He retained his activity to the last, as well as his taste for the pleasures of society and his keen interest in political affairs. For thirty-four years previous to his death he was a stranger to sickness, and his long career was one of unblemished integrity. Among his peculiarities may be mentioned his intense dislike for music; and he was wont to boast that he had never disappointed an audience when he was announced to make a speech, and had never worn an overcoat. He was twice married, his first wife dying in 1855, and his second, who was her half-sister, and whom he married in 1856, surviving him, as do several sons, who have risen to distinction. Death came suddenly and painlessly, in his eighty-second year, upon the most appropriate day that could be imagined—Independence Day, 1891. Our Republic cannot too gratefully treasure the memories of men whose lives have been faithfully spent in her service, as was that of Hannibal Hamlin.



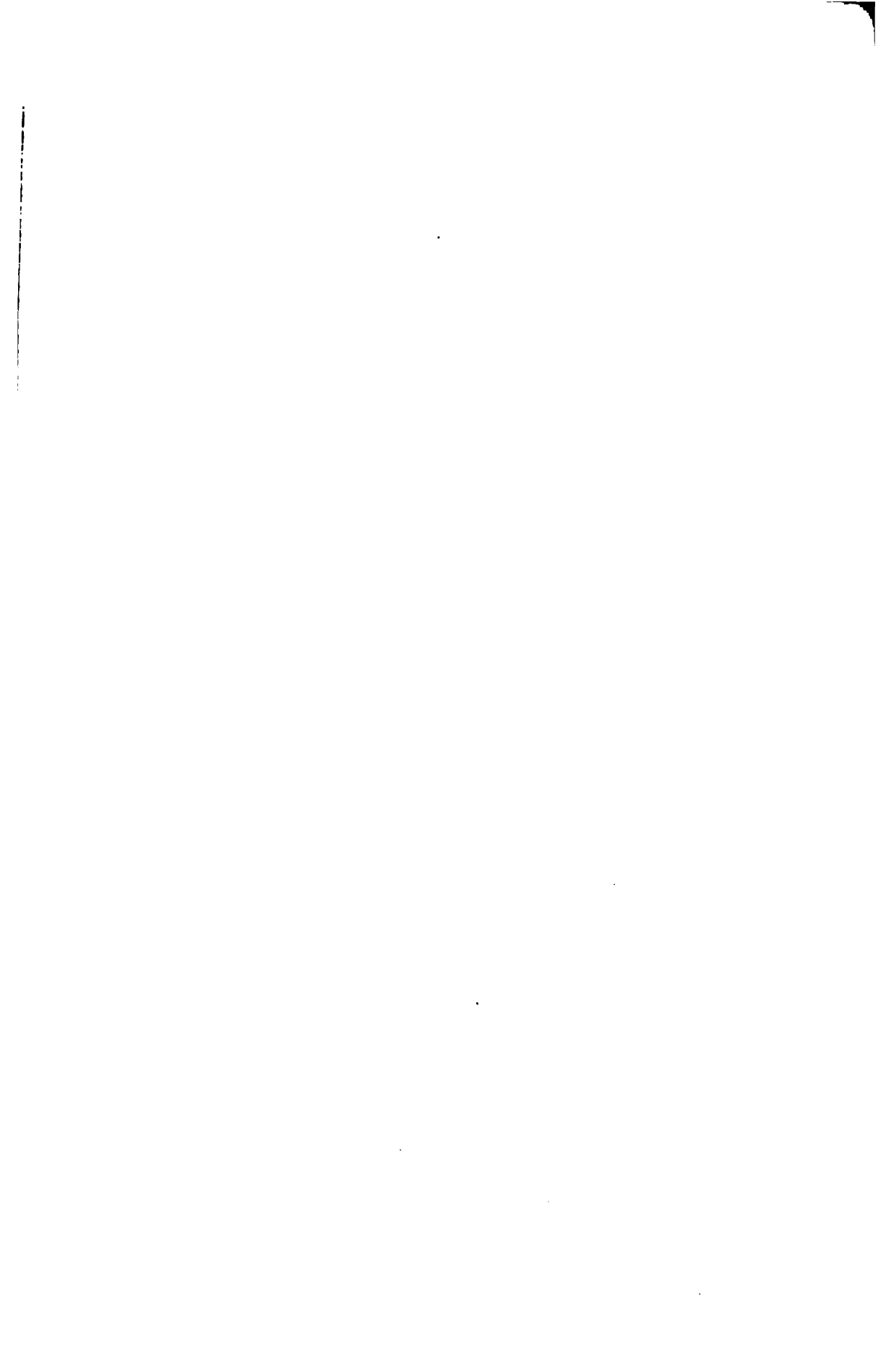
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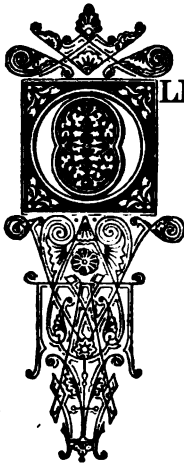
ROY W. M.
CLARK
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O. W. HOLMES.

From the portrait by E. T. Billings [1824--]
painted for the Medical Library Association
of Boston, in 1889.



OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.



OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, the son of Rev. Abiel Holmes, a Congregationalist clergyman of good New England lineage, was born in the town of Cambridge, Mass., on the 29th of August, 1809. He was a bright lad, and had a most amiable disposition, but was highly sensitive, and in his childish imagination were pictured curious fancies about the quaint old mansion, only recently taken down, which was the home of his infancy and youth, and about many of the familiar objects surrounding it, some of which fancies have been preserved in those charming autobiographical sketches which have been, and still continue to be, the delight of thousands of readers. His earliest education was acquired in the schools of his native town; for five years he attended one at the "Port," where Margaret Fuller, afterward Countess Ossoli, and Richard H. Dana were among the number of his companions. He was no marvel of propriety or precocity, but confesses to about the average amount of whispering and idleness during the hours of study.

At the age of fifteen, Oliver was sent to the Phillips Academy at Andover, to prepare for college. Probably the elder Holmes cherished the hope that his first-born son would there be attracted toward his own sacred profession, but the young man's tastes were found not to lie in that direction. While at the academy he showed unmistakable signs of a

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poetic genius by his versified translation of portions of the *Æneid* of Virgil. He remained at Andover only a year, and in 1825 he entered Harvard, in a class, many of whose members attained distinction, among whom we may name S. F. Smith, the author of "America," James Freeman Clarke, Unitarian divine, and Chief Justice Bigelow. Charles Sumner entered the class just below him, while the historian Motley, and his own second cousin, Wendell Phillips, entered during his junior year. Dr. Holmes was an excellent scholar, but had a very respectable share in the pranks of the students, and did not attain a specially high rank. He began to write, however, and at his graduation, in 1829, delivered the class poem.

For a year after graduating Holmes was engaged in legal studies at the Dane Law School, of Harvard University, and was also a contributor to the *Collegian*. In the autumn of 1830 he abandoned the law, and took up the study of medicine, of which he made final choice for a profession. It was in this year that his name first became widely known as a writer, through the publication, at first in the columns of the *Boston Advertiser*, of those ringing lines which have been declaimed by every schoolboy for two generations,

"Aye! tear her tattered ensign down!"

called forth by the proposed razing of the most noted of American vessels of war, the frigate *Constitution*, then at the Charlestown Navy Yard. The poem, copied into nearly every journal in the land, and issued as a broadside, not only brought fame to its young author, but it also deterred the Secretary of War from carrying into execution the plans for the destruction of the honored relic. After having continued two and a half years under the best medical instructors of Boston, he sailed, in April, 1833, for Europe, and he spent an equal length of time in the Old World, chiefly in the hospitals and lecture-rooms of Paris, mingling to some extent in the diversions of the gay capital.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Although Dr. Holmes rose to some eminence as a practitioner and a writer on medical subjects, and to very much higher eminence as a teacher, his reputation in this direction has been almost entirely overshadowed by his fame as a poet, a philosopher, and a wit. One admiring critic has credited him with the creation of a new species of literature, while another has tritely observed that the exquisite humor of his writings has benefited more individuals than ever his doses or prescriptions. In 1833 he was one of the authors of a collection of miscellanies called the "Harbinger"; in 1836 he published his first volume of poems. In the latter year, after receiving from his Alma Mater the degree of M. D., he began practice in Boston, the city of his affections, whose praises he has loyally sung, which he has declared to be the central point of the solar system, and its State House the very hub around which that system revolves.

After two years of professional life in Boston, he accepted the professorship of anatomy and physiology at Dartmouth College, which he held until about the time of his marriage, in 1840, to Amelia Lee Jackson, a niece of the distinguished physician under whom he had pursued his preliminary medical studies. He then returned to Boston, and for the following seven years devoted his whole attention to the duties of his profession. In 1847 he was installed in the Chair of Anatomy and Physiology at the Harvard Medical School. This position he held for thirty-five years, lecturing to four classes weekly during eight months in each year. His demonstrations were clothed in the most attractive language, and often enlivened with the keen wit for which he has become so celebrated the world over. He was eminently popular with the students, and it was no uncommon thing for the favorite professor to be greeted with hearty applause upon entering the classroom or during his lecture. His connection with the Medical School extended very nearly

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over the entire period during which the institution was located in North Grove Street, in Boston, or from the year after it was established there until the year preceding its removal to its present quarters adjoining Boston's magnificent Public Library.

In 1849 Dr. Holmes relinquished his practice, and was thus enabled to devote a much larger portion of his time to literary composition, in which he took increasing pleasure. In 1852 he delivered a lecture on the English Poets of the Nineteenth Century, in the leading Northern cities, and for several years subsequently he enjoyed a fair degree of popularity as a lyceum orator. It was not until his fifty-eighth year that he gave to the world the first of the famous "Breakfast Table" series, which are the most widely known of his writings. It was in 1857 that he began the publication of the "Autocrat" papers, in the first number of the "Atlantic Monthly." The title of "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" was identical with that of a collection of his forgotten youthful efforts, but the similarity ceased with the title. The work was issued in book form in 1858, and gave its author a celebrity which he happily yet lives to enjoy. It was in 1858, also, that he left the house in which he had resided since his marriage, and in which his three children were born, and took up his abode on Charles Street, in a house overlooking the river, and commanding a distant view of his old home at Cambridge. His summers in earlier years were spent at his seat in Pittsfield, Mass., an inheritance from his Wendell ancestry, who once owned the entire town. Latterly his summers have been passed in the company of his daughter, at Beverly Farms, Mass.

That Oliver Wendell Holmes holds the highest position among American humorists few will be inclined to deny; but his writings likewise include many essays and poems in a more sober vein, biographical notices of Emerson and Longfellow, two novels, "Elsie Venner," published in 1861,

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and the "Guardian Angel," six years later, as well as numerous papers read before medical societies or contributed to medical journals. His severe strictures upon Homeopathy will perhaps be regarded by many at the present day in the light of witticisms rather than of scientific essays. The greater portion of his productions have made their first appearance in the "Atlantic Monthly," of which periodical he was the sponsor, notably the "Professor at the Breakfast Table," in 1859, and the "Poet," in 1872. He possesses a most versatile genius, and is especially happy in poetry prepared for special occasions.

In 1871 Dr. Holmes removed to his present residence, on Beacon Street, in Boston. The completion of his seventieth year, in 1879, was made memorable by a breakfast given on the 3d of December by the publishers of the "Atlantic Monthly" at the Hotel Brunswick. On this occasion the *literati* of the country vied with one another in doing honor to the genial physician whose wise and witty sayings have driven dull care away from so many of his fellow-beings. Three years later he resigned his professorship and retired from active life, though not from his literary labors. He met his last class on the 28th of November, 1882, receiving from them a "loving-cup," with emotions too deep for utterance. The active duties of his office were assigned to another, but Dr. Holmes still retains the title of professor *emeritus*. In 1886 The Autocrat visited England, and was received as a brother among brethren by the most distinguished men of learning and letters. A pleasant account of this trip is to found in his "Hundred Days in Europe." While abroad he received the doctorate of laws from Edinburgh, of letters from Cambridge, and the degree of D. C. L. from Oxford. He has written less frequently since passing his eightieth year, and some hints dropped in "Over the Tea Cups" seem to indicate that he imagines himself to be growing old, but his admirers feel that he is certainly

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mistaken, and that the powers of the author of "The Broomstick Train" are fully equal to those of the writer of "The One Hoss Shay." It is with feelings of genuine satisfaction that we leave our sketch of Oliver Wendell Holmes unfinished.





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P. T. BARNUM.

From life.



P. T. BARNUM.



WHERE the question to be asked, "What American of our times acquired the highest degree of notoriety?" we should unhesitatingly reply, "P. T. Barnum." In this country his name is a synonym for enterprise, audacity and shrewdness, and it has been added to the colloquial vocabulary of a foreign tongue. Among his imitators and rivals in his chosen vocation of catering to the popular demand for amusement none could ever claim to be his peer. He was preëminent in his profession; the world never saw his like, and, now that he is gone, it will long look in vain for his equal. Phineas Taylor Barnum was born in Bethel, Conn., July 5, 1810. He was a farmer's boy, a good scholar, quick at figures, and endowed with a remarkable propensity for earning money, not by the sweat of his brow, but by trading and commercial speculation. His first experience in mercantile business was as a clerk in a store which his father established at Bethel. In 1825 the father died, bankrupt, and young Barnum was left penniless, the eldest of five children. He found employment at a store in a neighboring village and soon proved to be a valuable assistant. A year later he accepted a more responsible position in New York City, where he was well treated, and even intrusted with the duty of purchasing goods; but he longed to be his own master. An attack of small-pox in 1827, by forcing him to remain

idle for some months, made a serious inroad into his savings. After his recovery he opened a small public house in Brooklyn, sold out with profit after a few weeks, and again worked for a time on a salary. In 1828 he returned to his native town and opened a store for the sale of confectionery and small wares, which venture was quite successful. About the same time he became agent for certain lotteries, from which he derived a considerable income for several years. On the 8th of November, 1829, being only in his twentieth year, he was married.

In 1831 he opened a grocery store at Bethel, but the profits of the business were so much reduced by bad debts that he was glad to sell it out two years later. Meanwhile, in October, 1831, he had commenced the publication of a newspaper at Danbury, the *Herald of Freedom*, and before long found himself famous as the defendant in several libel suits, one of them resulting in his imprisonment in the jail for sixty days. He remained a journalist until early in the year 1835, when he removed with his family to New York. Failing to find any suitable employment, he opened a boarding-house on Frankfort Street, and also bought an interest in a grocery. In the same year he had his first experience of the profession in which he was to become so famous, that of a showman. His first exhibit consisted of a decrepit old negress, Joice Heth, who was said to be of very advanced age, and to have been nurse to George Washington. He was honestly convinced of the genuineness of her claims, and showed her to paying houses in New York, Boston, and elsewhere, until her death, in the following year. He next engaged an Italian acrobat, who performed sometimes under his management, and was sometimes leased to other managers. In April, 1836, Mr. Barnum joined a travelling circus, as ticket-seller and treasurer, retaining his Italian with him, and the ensuing summer was spent in journeying through the country, from New England as far south as North Caro-

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lina. The season ended in October, leaving him with a handsome net gain, and he immediately took a portion of the company, and started out on his own account.

For more than a year the great showman travelled through the Southern States with his company, or rather his companies, for the circus was once disbanded and re-formed, meeting with many changes of fortune, and the summer of 1838 found him in New York, ready for a new venture. He advertised for a business partner with experience, and from among the host of applicants he selected one with whom he engaged in the manufacture of paste blacking. This partnership was dissolved in January, 1840, Mr. Barnum gaining more experience than profit by the transaction. During the following summer he conducted a variety*performance at the Vauxhall Gardens, in New York; but not meeting with much success, he gathered together a few singers and dancers and once more took the road. He met with so many disagreeable adventures during a tour of the West and South that upon his return to New York in April, 1841, he resolved to quit the business. He next tried his hand as a book-agent. He sold some thousands of volumes in the next six months, and then found that, through dishonest sub-agents, his capital had been exhausted. Meanwhile he had again hired the Vauxhall Gardens, which he managed with some success for a single season, but at its close found himself reduced to the necessity of writing theatre advertisements at four dollars a week, eking out a poor living by contributing to the Sunday papers.

While his fortunes were at this low ebb Mr. Barnum learned that the American Museum, on the corner of Broadway and Ann Street, was for sale, and, with characteristic assurance, he determined to become its owner. Without capital of his own, he interested the owner of the building in which the museum was located, and through his assistance, after long and complicated negotiation with the proprietors,

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he took possession, in December, 1841, of a miscellaneous collection of curiosities, to which, as years passed on, he made large additions, and which became the most celebrated place of amusement in the world—Barnum's American Museum. Within two years he was not only free from debt, but had also bought the only rival establishment in the city, and united it with his own. Every one is familiar with his novel methods of advertising, and with the innocent humbugs with which he amused the people and made himself notorious. The mermaid, the buffalo-hunt, and the woolly horse were heartily laughed at by their victims, while the more legitimate attractions of the museum were a source of pleasure and instruction to thousands upon thousands of patrons. In November, 1842, he engaged the services of the celebrated dwarf, Charles S. Stratton, better known as Tom Thumb, and after exhibiting him for a year in the United States, he determined to take him abroad. He accordingly left the museum in responsible hands, and sailed for Liverpool, January 18, 1844.

This venture was remarkably successful from the commencement. In Liverpool and London throngs went to see the diminutive American "General." Two appearances before Her Majesty made the exhibition fashionable, and, in addition to the liberal receipts, many valuable presents were bestowed upon the little man by members of the nobility. In France and Belgium Mr. Barnum met with similar success, and in October, 1844, after a brief business trip to America, he returned with his wife and daughters and established his family in London. For over two years he continued his tour, which extended throughout Great Britain and to many important points on the Continent, and arrived home in New York in February, 1847, with an abundance of riches and fame. After travelling with Tom Thumb for another year through all parts of the United States, and making a trip to Havana, Mr. Barnum, in the summer

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of 1848, ceased for a time to be a "straggler from home," and with a feeling of great relief settled down at Bridgeport, Conn., which he had fixed upon as his residence, and where he had built a palace which he called Iranistan. Here he spent the two following years, busying himself only with the general oversight of his museum, while his subordinates attended to the details.

The next enterprise planned by this extraordinary man was perhaps the most remarkable in which he ever engaged. On the 9th of January, 1850, through his agent in Europe, he contracted with the "Swedish Nightingale," Miss Lind, the most talented female vocalist the world has yet seen, for a series of concerts in American cities. The undertaking was one of great magnitude, but was carried to a successful termination by its daring projector. Ninety-five concerts in all, were given in nineteen cities, including Havana, the first at Castle Garden, New York, September 11, 1850, the last at Philadelphia, June 9, 1851. The receipts amounted to over seven hundred thousand dollars, out of which Miss Lind received as her share, above all expenses, a hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars. After nine months of constant anxiety, Mr. Barnum was glad to seek the retirement of his Connecticut home once more. In the welfare of the city of Bridgeport he took a deep interest, and was active in the promotion of various enterprises whereby to increase its prosperity. The shrewdest of men are sometimes caught napping, and Mr. Barnum was to prove no exception to the rule. In 1855 he was induced to connect himself with a clock company which appeared, after the closest investigation, to be perfectly reliable, but which unfortunately was unsound, and in the summer of 1856 the prince of showmen discovered that he had endorsed to the extent of over half a million dollars paper which was almost worthless, except for his signature. He managed to pay his honest personal debts, and then became bankrupt.

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After so many years of earnest labor, spent in amassing a competence, he was now compelled to commence anew. He was not of course reduced to a state of destitution, for in his prosperity he had settled a goodly amount of property upon his wife; but the greater part of the income from this was used for the benefit of his creditors. He made an assignment of everything that remained, including Iranistan, and removed to New York, where he lived as economically as possible. Expressions of sympathy and proffers of assistance came in great numbers, but he declined all aid, preferring to extricate himself from his difficulties by his own exertions. Only a few among his friends proved false, but he was constantly harassed by the persecutions of note shavers, and finally determined to go abroad, to gain relief and, if possible, to mend his fortunes. He sailed for England early in 1857, accompanied by Tom Thumb, and the greater part of his time for the next two years was spent in Europe, quietly managing various exhibitions in Great Britain, Holland and Germany. He also delivered his famous lecture upon Money Getting to a hundred and fifty attentive audiences, including the students at Cambridge and Oxford, with whom he had exciting, though not unpleasant experiences. By March, 1860, he had succeeded in getting himself firmly upon his feet again, and was once more the owner and manager of the American Museum, which in October of that year was honored by a visit from the Prince of Wales and his suite.

For the next five years Mr. Barnum was indefatigable in his endeavors to procure novelties of every conceivable nature from the four quarters of the globe with which to entertain his patrons. One of the most interesting episodes of this period of prosperity was the marriage of Tom Thumb to Miss Warren, one of the showman's "curiosities," which occurred in February, 1863. At length there was another turn of the tide; on the 13th of July, 1865, the museum and its valuable contents were destroyed by fire, entailing a

loss of half a million. The insurance was small, but Mr. Barnum realized nearly two hundred thousand dollars by the sale of his lease to James Gordon Bennett, of the *New York Herald*. He soon procured new quarters, and in four months' time he opened his second museum. In the summer of 1866 he accepted an engagement to lecture in the West, addressing upwards of sixty audiences, and receiving one hundred dollars for each lecture, all of which was devoted to charitable purposes. But a singular fatality seemed to attend him. During his financial troubles Iranistan was burned, and in March, 1868, his new museum shared the fate of its predecessor. The three conflagrations destroyed about a million dollars' worth of Mr. Barnum's property, and he was yet to suffer twice more in a like manner. He now retired for a few years from the show business, except that he continued in business relations with Tom Thumb, and he took advantage of this resting spell to visit Cuba and California with a party of English friends. But idleness was irksome to a man of such active temperament, and in 1871 he gathered together his famous Hippodrome and Circus, which, with frequent changes of name and *personnel*, continued under his direction until his death, exhibiting not only in every section of the United States, but even in England. Our readers will require no description of the "Greatest Show upon Earth," which has outlived its celebrated founder. Fire destroyed a portion of it in New York, in December, 1872, and again at the Bridgeport winter quarters in November, 1887. In November, 1873, during the absence of Mr. Barnum in Europe, his wife died, at the city residence in New York.

From Barnum as a showman, we now turn to Barnum as a citizen. Allusion has already been made to his public spirit in connection with the city of Bridgeport. He was very generous, and gave away large sums of money in charities, both public and private. He was highly esteemed

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by his fellow-townsmen, and was upon several occasions the recipient of political honors from them. Mr. Barnum was a Democrat previous to the War, and in 1853 declined the nomination as governor of Connecticut by that party. In 1860 he became a Republican, and although too far advanced in years to fight for the Union himself, he supplied four substitutes, besides giving liberally in aid of the cause of freedom. In 1865 he was elected to the Connecticut Legislature as representative from Fairfield, and distinguished himself by opposing the railroad ring and by his support of the amendment for the abolition of slavery. He was reëlected in the following year, and in 1867 was nominated for Congress by the Republicans, but was defeated. Mr. Barnum was married a second time, in 1874, to an English lady, and subsequently made frequent visits to his wife's home in the mother country. In April, 1875, he was elected and inaugurated mayor of the city of Bridgeport. He had long been an earnest advocate of total abstinence, and he took occasion in his address to the city council to allude pointedly to the evils of the liquor traffic. He declined a reëlection, but in 1877 he was again chosen a member of the General Assembly, this time to represent Democratic Bridgeport, carrying the election as a Republican by his personal popularity among his neighbors. He subsequently served a fourth term. Mr. Barnum's wonderfully active and eminently useful life was ended on the 7th of April, 1891, his death being due solely to his advanced age.





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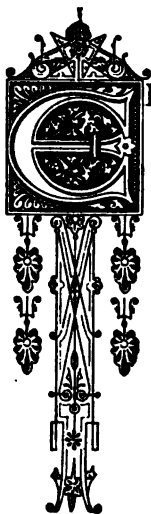


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ELIHU BURRITT.

From life, by J. W. Alderige.

ELIHU BURRITT.



ELIHU BURRITT was born in New Britain, Conn., December 8, 1810. Though his educational advantages during childhood were not great, his fondness for study and his eagerness to acquire knowledge were remarkable. At the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to a blacksmith, and in due time became an expert workman. His spare moments, early and late, were given to his books, and while laboring at the forge he subjected himself to severe mental discipline by working out intricate arithmetical problems. At the close of his apprenticeship he attended for three months an academy taught by an elder brother, although he could ill afford the consequent loss of wages. The greater part of the term was devoted to mathematics, but after returning to his anvil he took up Latin, Greek, and French, thus beginning a patient and persistent course of study, pursued indeed without any definite aim beyond the enjoyment which it afforded, the result of which was to make him one of the world's most noted linguists.

In the winter of 1831, desiring to spend another three months exclusively in study, he went to New Haven, where he could find superior facilities for so doing, made himself to some extent the master of several of the Continental languages, translated the Iliad without assistance, and began to learn Hebrew. Returning to New Britain, he tried teaching, but after a year he found that his health was suffering, and

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sought a more active occupation. He now became a traveling salesman for a manufacturer of his village, and after some time set up a grocery store on his own account; but in the general bankruptcy of 1837 his little capital was swept away. Forced by this disaster to resume his original calling, he proceeded on foot to Boston, where he proposed to take passage for some foreign port, but, not finding a suitable opportunity, he settled in Worcester, Mass., where he found both work and easy access to books. With one after another of the languages of Europe and Asia he became more or less familiar, until he was able to read in thirty-four of them, ancient and modern.

Such a remarkable intellectual development gave Mr. Burritt far more than a local reputation. In 1838 the Royal Antiquarian Society of France appropriately acknowledged the receipt of a communication from him, correctly written in the obscure Celto-Breton dialect. He was commonly spoken of as the "Learned Blacksmith," and is indeed most widely known under that appellation at the present day, although it was not as a linguist, but as a reformer that he won his most enduring laurels. He was proffered the advantages of Harvard University by Edward Everett and others, but regard for his health compelled him to decline. In 1839 he edited for a short time a periodical called the "Literary Gemini," designed to aid students in French, and printed partly in French and partly in English. In the following year he made his first appearance as a lecturer, his subject being "Application and Genius." He modestly instanced his own accomplishments in proof of his assertion that genius is a myth, and that by hard work and application alone can success be achieved. The lecture attracted marked attention, and was many times repeated, in various parts of the country.

It was not long after this that Mr. Burritt's attention was called, in an indirect way, to the subject which for many

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years lay nearest his heart,—the promotion of universal peace among the nations of the earth. Bidding a temporary adieu to his favorite studies, he devoted his time and energies to the welfare of his fellow-men with a forgetfulness of self which calls for the highest encomiums. In 1844 he established, in Worcester, the *Christian Citizen*, which he conducted for nine years, either personally or by means of assistants, in the interest of peace, anti-slavery, temperance, and like reformatory movements. He also made use of the lyceum platform to disseminate his principles, and sent out slips of paper containing brief printed essays devoted to the cause of peace to newspapers throughout the land for republication. These slips were headed by a dove and olive-branch, and were known as “olive leaves.” Some of them, finding their way across the water, fell into the hands of the advocates of peace in England, at a time when many hot-headed politicians were clamoring for war as the only means of settling the Oregon Boundary difficulties. Of course such a war would have been ruinous to the commerce of both countries, so some of the leading merchants, making common cause with those who opposed war from principle, resolved to send friendly addresses to the merchants of the American cities urging peaceful arbitration. Elihu Burritt was selected as the agent through whom to send these communications, and he received a cordial invitation to visit the mother country.

He had long cherished a desire to make a tour through England on foot, and it was in the expectation of realizing his hopes in this direction that he took passage on the *Hibernia* in June, 1846. Hardly had he landed on the other side, however, when it became apparent that he had found a new field of labor. He changed his plans entirely, and instead of a few months, he spent over three years in Europe, making public speeches, at first to small audiences in private houses, later to large and enthusiastic gatherings, editing

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and publishing periodicals, and endeavoring in all ways to advance the interests of peace and harmony between nations and individuals. For the next twenty-five years of his life Elihu Burritt was an "international man," and the greater part of his time was passed abroad; but this did not in any measure lessen his love for his own country, and he was everywhere received and honored as an American.

While making his way to London on foot he halted on the 29th of July at Pershore, in the midst of the fruit-producing district of Worcestershire, and there formed the nucleus of a society which was known as the "League of Universal Brotherhood," which came in time to include among its membership many of the most famous of England's philanthropists. The society was formally organized in London, in May, 1847. He addressed his first audience in the great metropolis in November, 1846. Unaccustomed to the peculiarities of a large English audience, he had much difficulty at first in making himself heard, and became well-nigh discouraged, but was reassured by the hearty applause and expressions of approval which followed the close of his remarks. He was thenceforth a power among those whose noble aim — visionary as it then seemed, and may yet seem to many — was to abolish war, with all its attendant train of evils. In the early part of the year 1847 he visited Ireland, and was an eye-witness of the desolation caused by the famine; and it was through his representations that large supplies of food were sent from the United States for the relief of the improvident peasantry. In September, 1847, he began to develop his scheme for facilitating intercourse between the Old and the New World, and thereby strengthening the ties of friendship, by reducing the ocean postage to a penny. He made public addresses on the subject in all parts of the British Islands, and without doubt aided materially in extending to international correspondence the postal reforms already effected by Rowland Hill in Great Britain.

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Shortly after the deposition of Louis Philippe from the throne of France, in February, 1848, Elihu Burritt visited Paris, to assist in making arrangements for a "Peace Congress," which it was proposed to hold in that city. After remaining there a week he returned to England, and the following six months were spent in untiring efforts to interest the British public in the coming gathering, which, owing to the state of bloodshed and anarchy existing in Paris, it was finally decided to hold in Brussels. At the Belgian capital, in September, 1848, occurred the first Peace Congress, and, in spite of the discouraging aspect of affairs in Europe at that revolutionary period, it was well attended, Mr. Burritt being chosen vice-president for America. Prominence was given in the discussions to the idea of treaties of arbitration, which should do away with the necessity for appeals to arms among civilized people. In 1848 Mr. Burritt published in London a collection of his writings, under the title of "Sparks from the Anvil." He was a pleasing writer, and this work, as well as subsequent ones, had a wide circulation.

Mr. Burritt's genius for self-direction was as remarkable as his genius for self-education. While constantly coöperating with other reformers, both in America and Europe, he preferred individual methods of action, and rarely worked long in connection with any single associate. He was very strong-willed, and no amount of detail or drudgery could turn him from a purpose, once fixed. In April, 1849, he was again in Paris, conferring with prominent men with regard to a second Congress. In June, having spent several months in preparatory work, he took part in a monster demonstration at Exeter Hall, London, in favor of Richard Cobden's parliamentary resolution in favor of arbitration. In October he attended the Peace Congress at Paris, and was one of its secretaries. This notable gathering, which was presided over by Victor Hugo, was made up of delegates from all the leading nations of the earth, who were

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received with honor and treated with marked respect by the French Government. Soon after its close the distinguished Apostle of Peace returned to America, and was accorded a royal welcome by his friends and neighbors at New Britain.

In 1850, after attending to his business interests in Worcester, he undertook a lecturing tour, which included nearly every State in the Union. His theme was still Peace, in the near approach of whose reign his faith continued strong. So great had his fame now become, that it was no unusual thing for him to have hotel and steamboat accommodations placed freely at his disposal. He met and conversed with many of the leading statesmen of the day, who listened with respectful attention to the statement of his views, if they did not share his enthusiasm. While at Washington he listened to the eulogies upon John C. Calhoun, in the national House of Representatives. On the 15th of May he sailed from Boston for Liverpool, where he arrived a fortnight later, and immediately resumed his philanthropic labors. In August he attended a Peace Congress at Frankfort, after which he endeavored, in company with others, to bring about a reconciliation between the Danes and the people of Sleswick, who were then at war; and he actually succeeded in inducing the belligerents to consent to a conference. He remained upon the Continent for six months, and arranged with the publishers of a number of the leading journals for the insertion of timely articles bearing upon the question of universal peace. The expense of this enterprise was borne by an association of ladies, the "Olive-Leaf Mission," which he formed after his return to England in the spring of 1851.

During the two following years Burritt continued his labors in England and elsewhere, lecturing, writing and publishing. In 1850 he had issued another volume of miscellanies. He was a secretary of the fourth Peace Congress, held at London in July, 1851, simultaneously with the Great Ex-

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hibition, and in the ensuing year he was the bearer of fraternal addresses between English and French cities. In 1853 he was back in America, preaching peace and cheap ocean postage; but he found the people absorbed in the struggle over slavery, and he was himself drawn into the discussion. He assumed the editorship of the *Citizen of the World*, published at Philadelphia, and through its columns he for several years enthusiastically advocated the plan of compensated emancipation, until John Brown at Harper's Ferry, and the rebels at Sumter, made an end of his hopes of a peaceful solution of the vexed question. He went abroad again in 1854, and spent another year in England, Holland and Prussia. When the War of the Rebellion broke out, Elihu Burritt, saddened by the apparent fruitlessness of his twenty years of incessant toil, retired to his native village of New Britain, and devoted himself to the cultivation of the little farm of which he was the owner, and to the publication of a weekly paper called the *North and South*.

In 1863 Mr. Burritt went to England, and he resided in that country for the following seven years. His first summer was devoted to a pedestrian tour of the Island, from London northward, the next one to a similar tour in the southwestern counties. Two delightful volumes were the outcome of these tramps, the best-known and most interesting of his writings, his "Walk from London to John O'Groat's," and his "Walk from London to Land's End." In 1865 he was, much to his surprise, appointed United States Consular Agent for the Birmingham District. The duties of the office were not onerous, and during the four years of his incumbency he found time to resume his linguistic studies, as well as to engage in literary work. He was unmarried, and his establishment at Harborne, near Birmingham, the only real home he ever possessed, was presided over by two of his nieces. He also published several works while in England, the principal ones being the

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"Mission of Suffering," "Walks in the Black Country," and a collection of lectures and speeches. At the expiration of his term of office, he spent a few weeks at Oxford, and then crossed the ocean for the last time. Most of the remainder of his life was passed at the home of a sister in New Britain, his time being occupied in agricultural and literary pursuits. His pen was constantly active, and he occasionally made short lecturing tours. He took a lively interest in the affairs of the town, especially in matters relating to education, and he was ever watchful for opportunities to relieve distress and benefit his fellows. His death, which occurred March 6, 1879, was due to consumption. Well deserving of honor is the memory of this pure-minded scholar and writer, of whom the Poet Longfellow said, "Nothing ever came from his pen that was not wholesome and good."





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CHARLES SUMNER.

By Edgar Parker. Faneuil Hall.

CHARLES SUMNER.



CHARLES SUMNER was born in Boston, January 6, 1811. He was not among the number of those who have made their way in the world in the face of early poverty and disadvantages, for his father was a substantial citizen, a lawyer of merit, and came to be sheriff of his county. Charles inherited a liking for the law, and received every possible encouragement in his efforts to become a leading member of that profession. He was naturally studious, had a retentive memory, and was not embarrassed by the financial difficulties against which so many young men have to struggle. It is no matter of surprise that, under such a combination of favorable circumstances, he should make an early start in the brilliant career which nature had marked out for him. He was a Franklin Medal scholar at the Boston Latin School, graduated at Harvard in the class of 1830, and after receiving the instructions of the ablest of living jurists, Mr. Justice Story, he was admitted to the bar, at Worcester, Mass., in 1834.

His profound knowledge of the law commanded general admiration, and quickly obtained for him an extensive practice. He was appointed reporter to the United States Circuit Court, and published three volumes of reports, which have been quoted as authority on both sides of the water. In 1837 he went to Europe, to obtain by observation a more complete insight into legal science and the customs of jurisprudence. Of course he again enjoyed every advantage

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which distinguished influence and his own high social standing could procure. While sitting on the bench at Westminster, by invitation of the Lord Chief-justice, an interesting point of law arose, and his lordship asked Mr. Sumner if any American decision would bear upon the case. Mr. Sumner replied in the negative, but promptly cited a decision of King's Bench on the very point. His acuteness in thus reminding the court of its own rulings gained him much celebrity among English lawyers. A year's residence in the mother country not only made him familiar with many of her renowned scholars and statesmen, but it also inspired him with admiration for English institutions and manners, without in the least lessening his ardent love for his native country. From England he proceeded to France, where he visited the famous law schools, and to Italy, where he studied art under the guidance of the American sculptor, Crawford. He likewise mastered the Italian language and made a critical study of Italian literature. He subsequently visited Germany, and early in 1840 he returned to America, having his mind richly stored, and being splendidly equipped for the great work which lay before him.

He resumed his practice, but, impatient of detail, and of the drudgery of courts, he never attained very high rank as an attorney. He turned his attention to general literature and to the consideration of the great principles which form the groundwork of all jurisprudence. His associations were with men of learning and culture; the cause he was to plead was that of a down-trodden race, the jury he addressed was the whole body of his countrymen. In 1843 he became lecturer in the Cambridge law school; from 1844 to 1846 he edited twenty volumes more of law reports, to which he added a series of ably written biographical notices of the legal and judicial celebrities mentioned in the text. In politics he was a Whig, but, to all appearance, he deliberately threw away his chances for preferment, by espousing the cause of

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freedom, and refusing to follow his party associates in their endeavors to preserve peace by compromise with wrong. On the 4th of July, 1845, he delivered an oration before the Boston City authorities, in which the injustice and inhumanity of the impending war with Mexico was strongly condemned, as was likewise the slave power, which had forced the war upon the country. A profound impression was created by this speech, and by subsequent ones in a similar vein. The invaluable aid of Charles Sumner's scholarly eloquence was hailed with delight by the opponents of slavery; but the conservative Whigs regarded him as a disturbing element, while the slaveholders and their Northern friends looked upon him with hatred, although he advocated only constitutional measures and was opposed to all forms of violence.

"Loyalty to principle is higher than loyalty to party," said Charles Sumner at the Massachusetts Whig State Convention in September, 1847. Acting upon this principle a year later, he abandoned the Whigs forever, and identified himself with the free-soil movement, supporting Mr. Van Buren for the presidency. He was nominated for Congress, but was not elected. In December, 1848, he made a forcible argument in the Supreme Court of the State against the constitutionality of establishing separate schools for colored pupils. The passage of the Fugitive Slave Law, in 1850, aroused his deepest indignation, which found expression in words of burning eloquence in his address before the Free-Soil Convention at Faneuil Hall in October.

On the 24th of April, 1851, Mr. Sumner was elected United States Senator by the combined votes of the Democrats and Free Soilers of the Massachusetts Legislature. This famous coalition was brought about mainly by the agency of Henry Wilson, then president of the State Senate, and afterward Mr. Sumner's colleague at Washington. The contest had lasted more than three months, and Mr. Sumner received, on the final ballot, only the exact number necessary

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X for a choice. He took his seat in the Senate, December 1, 1851, the same day upon which Henry Clay bade a final farewell to that body. He made his first great speech against the slave power during the debate upon his proposition to repeal the Fugitive Slave Law, August 26, 1852, and on that day Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State, who had aided in the passage of the iniquitous measure, entered the Senate for the last time. Mr. Sumner was a prominent member of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention of 1853. In the following year he took part in the organization of the Republican party in his State.

In February, 1854, he again addressed the Senate, composed overwhelmingly of his enemies, in denunciation of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill. His arguments were unanswerable, and no resource was left to the supporters of slavery whereby to silence this fearless champion of freedom except brute force. Every new assumption of power on the part of the slaveocracy brought forth fresh torrents of eloquence and logic from his lips. On the 19th and 20th of May, 1856, he made a stirring speech, entitled "The Crime against Kansas," which greatly incensed the Southern Congressmen, and one of them, Preston S. Brooks, of South Carolina, a member of the Lower House, was led by his fierce passion, and the encouragement of his colleagues, to commit the most atrocious outrage ever witnessed in the American Senate. On the 22d of May, just after the close of the day's session, as Mr. Sumner was sitting with his legs confined under his desk, leaning forward, and busily engaged in writing, his cowardly assailant approached rapidly from behind and struck him a fearful blow upon the head with a heavy cane, laying open a long gash, and depriving him instantly of sight and sense. Mr. Sumner, who was a powerful man, rose from his seat mechanically, and in his agony wrenched the desk from the floor, to which it was bolted, then staggered, and fell as dead beneath Brooks' repeated blows. Mr.

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Sumner's friends had left the hall, and the Democratic members who remained made little or no effort to assist him, many of them even loudly applauding the villain's deed. The affair caused intense excitement throughout the country; at the North it gained tens of thousands of votes for the cause of freedom, while at the South it was regarded with satisfaction and pleasure.

Mr. Sumner never recovered completely from the effects of his caning, but remained more or less a sufferer until his death. He received, of course, the best of medical care, and was able to leave Washington in July. The summer was spent at Cape May, and in the Alleghanies, after which he passed a short time with a friend in Philadelphia, and then returned to his home in Boston, where he was publicly received with the greatest enthusiasm by a vast concourse of people. For several months he remained under a physician's treatment, unable to do any work beyond dictating a few letters. His term as Senator being about to expire, he was, in January, 1857, reëlected by a vote which was nearly unanimous. Two weeks afterwards, his assailant, who had resigned his seat, and been promptly reëlected by his admiring Charleston constituency, and toward whom Mr. Sumner was never known to utter a single reproachful word, died a painful death in Washington. Mr. Sumner resumed his seat in the Senate on the 26th of February, but his health continuing to decline, he sought rest and relief in Europe, sailing early in March. Eager to be back to his senatorial duties, he returned, and was in his place in December, but finding no respite from his sufferings, he was constrained to go abroad once more. He took passage in May, 1858, and in Paris he submitted without a murmur to the extremely painful operation of moxibustion for the relief of his injured spine. He remained in Europe until the fall of 1859, when he returned to America, with his health in great measure restored, and reëntered the political arena at the time when

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the country was in a fever of excitement over John Brown's raid and his subsequent execution.

Mr. Sumner earnestly advocated the election of Abraham Lincoln, and throughout his administration remained on the most confidential terms with him. He was among the first to declare for emancipation, and, at the close of the war, for the extension of the rights of citizenship to the blacks. When the withdrawal of the Southern members in 1861 left the Republicans in control of the Senate, Mr. Sumner became chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, which position he held until February, 1871, when he was removed, in consequence of his disagreement with President Grant. In 1863, and again in 1869, he was reelected to his seat in the Senate, which he occupied for twenty-three years successively, a period longer than that for which any other Senator from Massachusetts has enjoyed the honor. He was married in 1866, but did not live happily with his wife, and a divorce ensued in 1873. Senator Sumner was opposed to the policy of President Johnson, and took a prominent part in the famous struggle between President and Congress, casting his vote in favor of conviction on the Impeachment trial.

Mr. Sumner's relations with President Grant were unpleasant, although he did not oppose his first election. His dissatisfaction with the President's course, especially in the matter of the proposed annexation of the Republic of San Domingo, was heightened by the removal of his friend, John L. Motley, from the English mission, and finally resulted in his total estrangement, not only from the administration, but from the Republican party as well. In the presidential election of 1872, he joined with the Democrats in favor of Horace Greeley, but out of personal regard for his colleague, Henry Wilson, the Republican candidate for the Vice-presidency, he decided not to take an active part in the campaign, and accordingly he made a short visit to Europe. While

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there he was nominated by the Democrats for the office of governor of Massachusetts, but declined to stand. The great fire in Boston in November, 1872, swept away much of his property, and he made arrangements for a lecturing tour, but his health was again rapidly failing, and he was obliged to cancel his engagements.

Having introduced a resolution into the Senate for the removal of the names of battlefields of the Rebellion from the regimental colors of the army, he was censured by vote of the Massachusetts Legislature, at the special session in December, 1872, but this censure was rescinded and annulled in February, 1874. Upon the very day in which his colleague, Senator Boutwell, read the rescinding resolution in the Senate, Mr. Sumner was attacked with severe pains in the heart, and he died on the following day, March 11th, at his Washington residence. Senator Sumner was a man of high culture and exquisite taste, delighting to surround himself with a profusion of rare and beautiful objects of art. His death was sincerely mourned by his State and country, and by none more deeply than by the people of that race for whose upraising he gave his life.







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HORACE GREELEY.

From a painting by J. Rüger of Brooklyn, N. Y. Its owner, Thomas N. Rooker, secretary of the Tribune Association, who has been connected with the Tribune from its first issue, vouches for it as the best likeness of Mr. Greeley in existence. He says in his letter to the publishers: "My desire to have a good portrait of Mr. Greeley published, induces me to allow my picture to be copied."

HORACE GREELEY.



HORACE GREELEY was born February 3, 1811, in Amherst, in the State of New Hampshire. The prince of journalists learned to read before he was three years old, and was sent to school at a very early age. As he grew in stature, a thirst for knowledge grew with him. He read at every opportunity, and every obtainable book and newspaper was carefully treasured; but at the same time he faithfully performed the portion of farm work which was allotted to him. When young Horace was ten years of age, his father became a bankrupt, lost his farm, and was forced to seek a home beyond the limits of New Hampshire, where he might be secure from the persecutions of his creditors. It was found in Westhaven, Vt. Some of the debts which the father left unpaid were cancelled many years later by the son. Horace Greeley led much the same life in the Green Mountain State as he had done previously, but as the family was poorer he had to work harder. He soon discovered that he could learn little or nothing from such teachers as were placed over him, and he gave up going to school. His great aspiration was to become a printer, and as early as his eleventh year his desire had grown into a fixed determination. About the same time, young as he was, he began to take an interest in politics, and before long he became a close observer and an intelligent judge of affairs.

In the year 1826 Horace Greeley was apprenticed to a

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printer in East Poultney, Vt. His father soon afterward removing to Pennsylvania, he was left to be the architect of his own fortunes. His personal appearance was that of a gawky country lad, and gave no indication of his genius. Such, however, was the gentleness of his manner, and the maturity of his judgment, that he very quickly lived down the attempts of his fellow-workmen to annoy him, and became a prime favorite. The mysteries of his trade were quickly mastered, as if by intuition; it was clear that the young man had chosen his vocation wisely. His apprenticeship lasted a little over four years, and although he received only forty dollars annually in money, he managed to save a little to aid his father in paying for his new lands. Twice during that time he paid his parents a visit, walking a large part of the six hundred miles distance. In the meantime he had become not only an expert printer, but also an able debater, had adopted the anti-masonic notions which were then rife, and had rendered considerable assistance in editing the local paper. In June, 1830, the printing office was closed, and Horace Greeley, out of work, made his way once more to his father's home in Pennsylvania. After several unsuccessful attempts to get settled in country printing offices, the ungainly youth at length decided to go to New York, and there he arrived August 18, 1831, utterly friendless, and with only ten dollars in his pocket.

His first experiences of city life were discouraging, but after a time he obtained work, and labored industriously, early and late. He was frugal and saving, and so would have money to spare of a Monday morning while the other journeymen were in need and forced to become borrowers. But it was uphill work for the first year or so. Employers became bankrupt, and his awkward personal appearance was against him. But at length he formed a partnership with the foreman of the office in which he was employed at the time. Their capital was one hundred and fifty dollars, and

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they obtained a small amount of credit, and so Horace Greeley became senior member of the firm of Greeley & Story, Printers. Their first work was the printing of a cheap daily newspaper. The first number of the *Morning Post* appeared January 1, 1833, and the last about three weeks later; but the new firm continued to have a good run of business. Only a few months elapsed before the partner was drowned, another was taken, and the firm style changed to Greeley & Co. Now, as all through his life, Mr. Greeley was distinguished by his intense application to the business in hand. He would become so deeply absorbed in his work as to be oblivious to what was going on around him, even forgetting sometimes whether or no he had dined. Another characteristic of the distinguished journalist was his entire indifference to his personal appearance. His clothes never fitted him; but he was always scrupulously clean. About this time James Gordon Bennett, who had attained some celebrity as a newspaper writer, called upon Mr. Greeley and urged him to join with him in the publication of a daily. Mr. Greeley declined, and Mr. Bennett found assistance elsewhere, established the *New York Herald*, and became Mr. Greeley's life-long rival. In March, 1834, Greeley & Co. commenced the publication of the *New Yorker*, a weekly newspaper, independent in politics. This enterprise, which was carried on for seven years, did not prove financially successful, owing in great measure to Mr. Greeley's lack of business ability; but it served to bring him prominently before the American public as an editor and writer. As the *New Yorker* did not afford him a living, he was obliged to become a contributor to other periodicals, and during the year 1838 he edited, in addition to his own paper, *The Jeffersonian*, the organ of the Albany Whigs, spending half of each week in the latter city. During the exciting presidential campaign of 1840, he published another weekly, called the *Log Cabin*, in the interest of General Harrison

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and the Whigs, whereby his reputation as a political writer was greatly enhanced; but his utmost exertions up to this time, failed to relieve him from his load of debts, and the anxiety consequent upon such embarrassment. In July, 1836, Mr. Greeley was married in Warrenton, N. C., and he took advantage of his wedding trip to make his first visit to Washington.

Mr. Greeley established the newspaper which made him the most famous of American editors in the year 1841. The first number of the *Daily Tribune* appeared on the 10th of April, and the new journal rapidly gained the favor of the public. It remains to-day, in fulfilment of the ardent wishes of its founder, his most worthy memorial. Mr. Greeley was fortunate in obtaining a thoroughly efficient business manager and partner, Thomas McElrath. He became connected with the *Tribune* in July, and its success was assured. Soon afterward, a weekly edition was commenced into which the *New Yorker* and the *Log Cabin* were merged. The amount of editorial work which Mr. Greeley performed was enormous; three columns, or fifteen pages of foolscap being an ordinary day's production from his pen. His articles were written rapidly, and his chirography was the despair of the typesetters.

Mr. Greeley travelled extensively in the summer of 1842, visiting the scenes of his boyhood in Vermont and New Hampshire, the home of his parents in Pennsylvania, the National Capital, Niagara, and other points of interest, and for four weeks a delightful series of descriptive letters took the place of his editorials. About this time, and for several years afterward, he advocated a mild form of socialism, a modification of the doctrines of Fourier. His views were grossly misrepresented and vigorously assailed by rival editors, and, after defending them for awhile, he gradually allowed the subject to drop. After the defeat of Henry Clay in 1844, Mr. Greeley began to take part in the abolition

movement, having previously meddled very little with the slavery question, but rather opposed its discussion by the people of the North as uselessly irritating. On the 5th of February, 1845, the *Tribune* office was totally destroyed by fire, involving Mr. Greeley in a pecuniary loss of eight thousand dollars above his insurance, but the publication of the paper was not delayed, nor its success in any way impaired by this unfortunate circumstance.

The great editor's pen was at times terribly caustic; he incurred the hostility even of the Whig press, and became the butt of unlimited ridicule and abuse; but the people continued to buy the *Tribune*, and Mr. Greeley kept on expressing his honest convictions in a fearless manner, exposing fraud and deceit wherever he chanced to find them. In the fall of 1848, Mr. Greeley was elected a Member of Congress, to fill a vacancy, his term lasting only three months, and expiring on the 4th of March, 1849. In 1851 he made a voyage to Europe, and spent three months in investigating the manners and customs of the Old World, the results of his observations being recorded in the *Tribune*. He also acted as one of the jurors at the great Exhibition in London, and was called upon to give testimony before a committee of the House of Commons, on the question of taxing newspapers. It is believed that the abolition of advertisement duties in England, was due to his evidence on this occasion. Nearly all of the comparisons made by Mr. Greeley between European institutions and those of America, were in every way favorable to his native country.

In 1852 occurred the final struggle of the Whig party to gain the control of the National Government. Mr. Greeley faithfully supported General Scott, and then submitted with a good grace to the crushing defeat which his party experienced. For a year or so he considered himself as done with politics, and devoted his attention to the promotion of reforms of various kinds. It was at this time

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also that he began to be interested in agriculture, and purchased the famous farm at Chappaqua, where for many years it was his custom to spend one day of each week in directing operations. His opposition to slavery grew steadily stronger, and doubtless he exercised a more widespread influence than any other single man, in moulding the sentiments of the people of the North, and in uniting them in defence of their free institutions. In 1855 he again visited Europe. While in Paris he had the singular experience of being confined in a debtor's prison, at the instance of a certain French sculptor who had had a statue damaged two years before at the Crystal Palace Exhibition in New York, of which Mr. Greeley had been one of the directors. The account of his few days' confinement made very interesting reading for the patrons of the *Tribune*.

Upon the advent of the Republican party Mr. Greeley joined its ranks. During the progress of the slavery controversy in the Pierce and Buchanan administrations, much of his time was spent in Washington, as an observer of the Congressional proceedings. In that city, in January, 1856, he was assaulted on the street by Albert Rust, a congressman from Arkansas, who had taken offence at some statements in one of Mr. Greeley's letters to the *Tribune*. Though the consequences were less serious, the spirit which prompted this violence was the same as that which moved "Bully" Brooks to strike down Charles Sumner in the Senate only a few months later. In the same year Mr. Greeley was presented by a grand jury in Virginia for circulating the *Tribune* in that State with the intent to excite the negroes to revolt. In the summer of 1859 he made the overland journey to California. It was before the days of the locomotive on the prairies, and the lumbering old emigrant wagon was the best conveyance to be had for a long portion of the distance. At Salt Lake City he had an interview with the Mormon President, Brigham Young. His reception in California

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was very cordial, and while in his political addresses he, of course, supported the principles of the Republicans, he won the admiration of all parties by his earnest advocacy of a Pacific Railroad. He returned to New York by way of Panama.

But Horace Greeley, wonderfully successful in his profession, pure and industrious in his life, kind-hearted to a fault, was not exempt from that fancy for official distinction, not always blameworthy, but which has been destructive to the happiness of so many of our public men. He was, for many years, a co-worker in politics with William H. Seward; but, conceiving himself slighted by the senator in the distribution of political favors, he withdrew from the alliance in 1854. In 1860 he was a member of the National Convention of the Republican Party, and it was largely owing to his influence that Mr. Seward lost the nomination, which was given to Abraham Lincoln. This was remembered against him by Mr. Seward's friends in the following year, when Mr. Greeley aspired to the Senatorship, and his cherished hope was defeated.

When the clouds of war began to lower over the land, Mr. Greeley was inclined to favor the peaceful separation of the Southern States; but after such a course was seen to be impracticable he gave his hearty support to the forcible suppression of the rebellion. In July, 1864, he was authorized by Mr. Lincoln to proceed to Niagara, there to treat with certain commissioners, so called, from the insurgents, and if possible to arrange for a basis upon which to conclude peace. The conference was fruitless, as Mr. Greeley was of course unable to propose any other terms than unconditional surrender, which the rebels were not yet ready to accept. At the close of the war, he favored a general amnesty, and on the 14th of May, 1867, his name headed the list of signatures upon the bail-bond which restored the traitor Davis to liberty.

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Mr. Greeley was among the number of the Republicans who became dissatisfied with the course of President Grant, and in May, 1872, he accepted at their hands a presidential nomination. Two months later the nomination was endorsed by the Democratic National Convention. The campaign which followed was conducted with extreme bitterness on both sides, and in it the now aged editor took an active part, until called to the bedside of his dying wife. Close upon his bereavement followed his defeat at the polls, and he sank, heart-broken, under an attack of brain-fever; and before the electoral vote was counted, the disease had done its fatal work. He died at Pleasantville, N. Y., November 29th. Personal and political eccentricities were forgotten in the universal feeling of regret caused by the loss of this our "later Franklin." Mr. Greeley was the author of works on political economy and agriculture, of a history of the war, and a volume of personal recollections.



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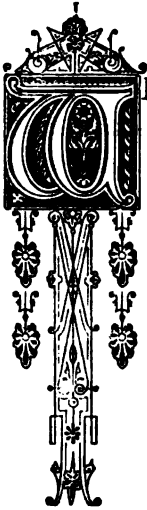


ROY W. ALLEN
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WENDELL PHILLIPS.

Painted by Frederick P. Vinton [1846-]. Faneuil Hall.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.



WENDELL PHILLIPS, the son of John Phillips, first mayor of Boston, was born in that town November 29, 1811. As a boy he was strong and active, a good scholar, and a famous declaimer. He entered the Latin School during his father's mayoralty, and in 1827 became a student at Harvard. The historian, Motley, was a classmate, Josiah Quincy became president of the college in his sophomore year, and Lyman Beecher was the leading divine of Boston. After graduating with honor in 1831, Phillips went to the Harvard Law School—the friend and fellow-student of Charles Sumner—and was admitted to the bar in September, 1834. After a short trip to Philadelphia and New York, during which he made the acquaintance of Aaron Burr, and a brief time spent in the office of a classmate at Lowell, where he formed a friendship with an errand boy named Benjamin F. Butler, he began practice in Boston. But he was destined to achieve no brilliant success in the law; his life work was to lie in another direction. On October 21, 1835, he was surprised and shocked by the appearance of a mob in the streets of Boston, a mob composed largely of respectable citizens. It had broken up an assemblage of women, and its present purpose was to lynch William Lloyd Garrison, upon whose head the price of five thousand dollars had been placed by the State of Georgia. Only with extreme difficulty did the mayor of the city pre-

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vail upon his cultured and aristocratic friends to abstain from committing a murder. The disgraceful occurrence aroused the indignation of Wendell Phillips, and hastened the avowal of the anti-slavery sentiments which he had already begun to cherish.

Mr. Phillips made his first speech in behalf of abolition at Lynn, Mass., June 14, 1837, and in December of the same year he electrified his first audience in Faneuil Hall, whose historic walls were to become so familiar with the tones of the "silver-tongued orator." Henceforth he was the most eloquent champion of the great reformatory movement. In taking this step, the young lawyer turned his back on all hopes of political preferment, and found himself degraded from the ranks of the exclusive "society" in which he had hitherto moved. Fortunately for himself, he was not dependent upon his profession for support, having inherited from his father an independent fortune, and he was therefore prepared to meet the social ostracism to which he was subjected. It was at this time that he began his career as a public lecturer, soon attaining a popularity which continued undiminished to the day of his death. His lecture on "Lost Arts," delivered for the first time in 1838, was repeated in after years more than two thousand times, and netted its author over a hundred and fifty thousand dollars. When engaged to speak by lyceum committees, and asked his terms, he was accustomed to reply, that if a purely literary lecture was desired he should charge a certain price (and it was usually a high one), but if he should be permitted to speak upon the subject of slavery, the lecture would be given gratis, and he would bear his own expenses.

Mr. Phillips' wife, to whom he was married in 1837, was a life-long invalid who claimed a large share of his time and attention. In June, 1839, he went with her to Europe. Two winters were spent in Italy, and the intervening summer in visiting England and various health resorts upon the

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Continent. They returned home in July, 1841, after an absence of two years, unfortunately with no improvement in Mrs. Phillips' condition. In 1842 Mr. Phillips forswore his allegiance to the Constitution of the United States, which the radical abolitionists characterized as a "covenant with death and an agreement with hell," closed his law office, and from that time onward he declined to exercise the right of franchise, and held aloof from all political relations with his fellow-citizens. The unwisdom of such a course is now apparent, but no one doubts that he acted in accordance with his conscientious convictions of duty. His imitators, of whom there was a considerable number, were known at that day as "come-outers." For many years sugar was banished from his table, and garments made wholly or in part of cotton were excluded from his wardrobe, because sugar and cotton were the products of slave labor.

Isolated socially and politically, Wendell Phillips made it the business of his life to arouse the people, to point out the evils of the slave system, and to denounce the schemes of its upholders, leaving for more practical minds the task of devising proper methods of action; he became, in short, America's first and foremost *Agitator*. Other questions, indeed, came in for a share of his attention, and in the end superseded the slavery question, after that had been finally settled; but it was in the great anti-slavery struggle that he won his laurels and achieved his success. Each aggression on the part of the South, each obsequious concession on the part of Northern politicians, was arraigned by Mr. Phillips with an eloquence which wonderfully swayed the minds of his hearers. The passage of the Fugitive Slave Law in 1850 called forth his fierce denunciations of the great Massachusetts statesman who had promoted the measure. He became an active member of the "Vigilance Committee" of Boston Abolitionists, which harbored escaping slaves and aided them on their way to Canada. Numbers of such persons were

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saved from their pursuers; but two of them, Thomas Sims, in April, 1851, and Anthony Burns, in May, 1854, were formally returned to their masters, a rescue being prevented in each case by a strong military force. Foul blots upon the fair fame of the city, at whose mention true Bostonians even now hang their heads in shame. His strictures upon the course of the Government in the Burns case led to his arrest; but he was never brought to trial.

Mr. Phillips was not among the number of those with whom John Brown consulted in regard to his plans for liberating the slaves; but he was outspoken in his admiration of the heroism displayed in the attack upon Harper's Ferry. After the execution of Brown in December, 1859, Mr. Phillips accompanied his remains from New York to North Elba and there pronounced the funeral oration over them. Just before the outbreak of the Civil War, much mob violence was manifested toward Mr. Phillips and his associates, so that it was necessary to provide him at times with an armed escort when he spoke in public, the pro-slavery mayor refusing to protect him. Like Greeley, he would have been willing to allow the Southern States to secede without opposition, but the shot fired at Sumter made a Union man of him again. He saw that it was hopeless to attempt to disarm treason by moral suasion alone. In May, 1863, he witnessed with pride the departure from Boston of the first black regiment raised at the North, the 54th Massachusetts, which he had himself aided in organizing.

Mr. Phillips' support was chiefly derived from his income as a lyceum lecturer; the death of the courtly Edward Everett left him the most highly polished orator in the land, and also (such was the change in public sentiment) the most popular one. A volume of his "Speeches and Lectures" was published in 1863. In 1865, William Lloyd Garrison retired from the presidency of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and was succeeded by Wendell Phillips, who con-

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sidered the work of the organization unfinished so long as the rights of citizenship were withheld from the freedmen. When the last wrong was righted by the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment, there was no further use for the society. It was dissolved April 9, 1870, and the great Agitator transferred his activity to other fields. He was especially earnest during the remainder of his life in the cause of temperance. In the fall of 1870 he accepted a nomination for the governorship of Massachusetts from the Labor and Prohibition parties; but was defeated, as he was in the succeeding year in his efforts to secure the Republican nomination for General Butler. He advocated the reelection of President Grant in 1872.

Mr. Phillips was a man of high culture, conversant with several languages, and spoke French fluently. His integrity no man ever questioned, his generosity was noble. He gave away a fortune in private charities. His habits of life were simple. When driven from his home of forty years by the march of improvement, he selected another house in one of the least aristocratic quarters of his beloved Boston. His last appearance in public was at the Old South Meeting House in his native city, December 26, 1883. He died on the 2d of the following February, his latest thought being for the dear companion who, for years a helpless invalid, survived him about a twelvemonth.





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HENRY WILSON.

By Edgar Parker. Faneuil Hall.

HENRY WILSON.



FEREMIAH JONES COLBATH was born in Farmington, N. H., February 16, 1812, of parents who though very poor, were respectable and intelligent. At ten years of age he was regularly indentured to a neighboring farmer, and he worked faithfully for his master until he became of age. No academy or college opened their doors to him, and his schooling was limited to a month in each winter season; but he devoted the chance leisure moments to the reading of useful books, of which he is said to have perused about a thousand during the eleven years of his apprenticeship. He entered manhood with a strong physical frame, a well balanced judgment, a very fair amount of general information, and eighty-four dollars in money, the proceeds of the sale of the six sheep and the yoke of cattle which he received with his freedom. It was at this time that he had his name changed, by act of the New Hampshire Legislature, to Henry Wilson.

He soon became dissatisfied with the meagre wages of the husbandman, and determined to learn a trade. After a fruitless search for an opportunity to do so in his native State, his attention was directed to the shoe-making industry, which at that day was yet in its infancy, each workman making a shoe entire, instead of performing only his own special portion of the series of operations which constitute the modern method. He ascertained that good wages could

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be earned at the trade in Natick, Mass., and thither in December, 1833, he took his journey on foot. He contracted with a man to instruct him in return for five months' labor, but he soon found he had made a bad bargain. In seven weeks' time he was able to set up on his own account, and paid his instructor fifteen dollars to cancel the contract. The quality of the shoes then made at Natick was coarse and inferior, and Henry Wilson soon became as skilful as the best, and by laboring regularly sixteen hours a day, and sometimes for two days and a night without sleep, he was able to outstrip all others in the amount of work performed. It was his ambition to obtain means to complete his studies, with the ultimate view of becoming a lawyer. In the village debating society he developed and strengthened the rare argumentative genius which was to make him a power in the nation, while the eloquence of Webster and Everett awakened newer and higher aspirations within him. As might have been expected, his strength was not equal to the strain thus put upon it, and in the spring of 1836 he visited Washington, by advice of his physician. The revolting spectacle of the slave pen, the auction block, and the field gang under the driver's lash made an impression upon him which was only deepened by the congressional debate to which he listened. He returned to Massachusetts an avowed abolitionist.

Having now accumulated about seven hundred dollars, Mr. Wilson devoted a year's time to study in the academies at Strafford, Wolfsborough and Concord, N. H. In 1837, the man with whom he had deposited his savings became bankrupt, and Henry Wilson was forced to return to Natick, not only penniless, but in debt. During the following winter he taught school, and at the close of the term he found himself square with the world, and in possession of surplus capital to the amount of twelve dollars, which he immediately invested in the shoe business. This he conducted for ten years with constantly increasing success, and

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when, owing to the pressure of public business, he relinquished it, he had become the employer of over a hundred hands, toward whom he was uniformly just and generous. In 1839 he was a candidate for election to the Legislature, nominated by the advocates of temperance, but was defeated. In 1840 he was married. His only son, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Hamilton Wilson, died in the service of his country shortly after the close of the Rebellion.

His political career may be said to have commenced in 1840, when he made his appearance in public as a young Whig orator, and took the stump for General Harrison. He rose rapidly into prominence, and his satisfaction at the brilliant success of his party was heightened by his own election to the General Court. He served two terms in the Lower House at this time, and was again a member in 1846. He was an unsuccessful candidate for a seat in the State Senate in the fall election of 1842, but was a member of that body in 1844 and 1845. He continued during these years to act with the Whig party, although by no means pleased with the attitude of that party as a whole, upon the question of slavery, to which he was an uncompromising foe, and against which he directed his most earnest efforts. In December, 1845, he was the bearer of a remonstrance to Congress, signed by sixty-five thousand of the people of Massachusetts, against the admission of Texas. The remonstrance met with the usual fate of such appeals in the old days when Cotton was king, and when Whig and Democrat alike served him in all humility—it was laid on the table and ignored. Mr. Wilson was a member of the military Committee of the State Senate. While a farmer in New Hampshire he had joined the militia, and his interest in military affairs had been continued in his new home. In 1843 he was chosen major of the First Artillery Regiment, and in 1846 he was promoted to the colonelcy. Shortly afterward he was commissioned brigadier-general, and for

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the ensuing five years he held the command of the third brigade of the Massachusetts militia.

In 1848 Mr. Wilson ceased to act with the Whig party, in consequence of the action of its National Convention, to which he was a delegate, in nominating General Taylor, who was a slaveholder, and from this time until 1854, he was an influential member of the Freesoil organization, being for four years chairman of the State Committee. In order to disseminate the principles of the new party, he purchased a newspaper in Boston, which he edited and published for about two years, at a personal loss of several thousand dollars. He held a seat in the Massachusetts Legislature of 1850, and was, in that year, the master-spirit of a coalition between the Freesoilers and the Democrats of the State, a political movement, which in the boldness of its conception, and the importance of its results, has had no equal in the history of Massachusetts. Mr. Wilson was himself elected to the State Senate, and was made its president. The governorship, and the vacancy in the National Senate caused by the resignation of Daniel Webster, were filled by Democrats, while Charles Sumner was elected United States Senator for the long term. Mr. Wilson again presided over the State Senate in 1852, and was made chairman of the National Freesoil committee, but was defeated by a narrow margin in the congressional election. In the following year he was an active member of the State Constitutional Convention, and again met with defeat as the Freesoil nominee for governor.

Henry Wilson, to quote his own words, "believed the anti-slavery cause to be the great cause of our age in America." All other issues were comparatively so unimportant, that he was ready to ally himself with any political party which seemed to him most likely to advance the great interests of human freedom, and to the frequent charges of vacillation which were brought against him, he made reply that, with him, party success was of no moment when compared

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with the triumph of justice and right. Convinced, after thorough trial, that the ends he had in view were not to be furthered by remaining in the Freesoil party, he decided, in March, 1854, to support the American organization, hoping it might be made to assist the anti-slavery movement. With regard to his own State, he was not disappointed, for there the Americans, who in the fall elections made a clean sweep, overwhelming not only the Whigs and Democrats, but likewise the nascent Republican party, which, singularly enough, had placed his own name at the head of its ticket, elected a radical anti-slavery Legislature. By this legislature Henry Wilson was elected United States Senator. He took his seat on the 10th of February, 1855, and held it, by repeated and almost unanimous reëlections, for eighteen years, only resigning his membership in the Senate to become its president.

At the National Council of the Americans, held in Philadelphia in June, 1855, it became evident that the party was as fully under the control of the slave power as the older parties were, and Senator Wilson, after a manly defence of the principles which neither entreaties nor threats could induce him to surrender, withdrew from the organization. In this and the following year he was earnest and foremost in the work of effecting a fusion of all the friends of Union with Freedom, the outcome of which was, as is well known, the National Republican party, with which he was ever afterward identified. With his scholarly colleague, Charles Sumner, he made a noble stand in the Senate against the insolent assumptions of social and political supremacy on the part of the Southern members. With great force and eloquence he denounced the Dred-Scott decision, the outrages in Kansas, the hunting of fugitives, and all the varied forms in which the aggression of the slave power was manifested. The reply to the irrefutable logic of the Massachusetts senators was the cowardly blow which fell upon the head of

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Mr. Sumner on the 22d of May, 1856. Mr. Wilson was profoundly moved by the occurrence, which he characterized as "brutal, cowardly and murderous." He received a challenge from the ruffian Brooks, Mr. Sumner's assailant, which he refused to accept, not from any lack of courage, but out of respect to the laws of his country. In the fall of 1856 he visited Canada, and took part in the railroad jubilee at Montreal, replying with great acceptance to the toast in honor of the President of the United States.

The well-being of the working people — the bone and sinew of the nation — was an object of Mr. Wilson's especial solicitude. From them he had his origin, and he never ceased to feel an honest pride in classing himself among them. Any word spoken disparagingly of the mechanic touched him to the quick, and was deeply resented. No nobler tribute was ever paid to the dignity of labor than that contained in his reply to Senator Hammond of South Carolina, March 20, 1858. Senator Wilson was an advocate of the Pacific railroad and similar improvements tending to enhance the prosperity of the country. With John Brown's raid in 1859 he had no sympathy, though he frankly expressed his admiration for the courage and endurance of its unfortunate projector. With the people of his own State he was extremely popular, and was a favorite speaker at public gatherings of every nature. By a legislative resolve, approved June 16, 1860, he was tendered the thanks of the Commonwealth for his able defence of the principles of freedom, as a senator and a citizen.

When the Civil War broke out, Senator Wilson opposed all compromise schemes, as being only surrender in disguise. He had long served on the military committee, and was its chairman during the war, when its duties were of the utmost importance. Alluding to the extra session called by President Lincoln in 1861, General Scott said of Senator Wilson, "He has done more work in that short session than all the

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chairmen of the military committees have done for the last twenty years." His activity in behalf of the Union troops gained for him the enviable title of "Soldiers' friend." He was a personal witness of the first disaster to the Union arms at Bull Run. Mr. Lincoln would gladly have made him a brigadier-general, but he rightly judged that his presence was more necessary in the Senate than in the field. However, after the adjournment of Congress, he hurried back to Massachusetts, and in forty days time he raised over twenty-two hundred recruits from the best material of the Old Bay State. A portion of these recruits formed the Twenty-Second regiment, of which Senator Wilson accepted the colonelcy, and he accompanied it to the front in October, 1861. He soon resigned his commission, but remained in the field as aide-de-camp to General McClellan, until recalled to attend to his senatorial duties.

He enjoyed the full confidence of the President, and gave his whole energies to support him in putting down the Rebellion. Many of the most important laws passed during this troublous period were prepared by him personally; and nearly eleven thousand military nominations passed under his scrutiny previous to their confirmation. After the close of the war he supported the series of measures by which Congress provided for the restoration of the rebel States, and in so doing was of course obliged to oppose President Johnson, for whose conviction he gave his vote at the impeachment trial in 1868. In the spring of 1867 he made a tour through the South, addressing generally courteous audiences at many of the principal cities. In May, 1870, he lost his devoted wife; his only son had died more than three years previously.

As a partial relief from his weight of public care and private grief, Senator Wilson spent the summer of 1871 in Europe. He travelled extensively, naturally finding more to interest him in the every-day life of the people, and the practical workings of the governments, than in glittering

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pageantry and galleries of art. In the ensuing year he published the first volume of his most important literary work, "The History of the Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America."

Henry Wilson was elected Vice-president of the United States in November, 1872, after a canvass in which he himself bore a prominent part, and was inaugurated March 4, 1873. Well-merited honor for the "Natick Cobbler!" But although he had exchanged the onerous duties of a member of the senate for the lighter ones of its presiding officer, he allowed himself no repose from the activity which had become a part of his nature, until compelled to heed reluctantly the warnings of failing health. Soon after the opening of the regular session of Congress in December, 1873, he retired from the chair, but in the year following he regained his strength sufficiently to be able to preside over the Senate as usual. In the spring of 1875 he made a tour of the Southwest, again making numerous public addresses. A shock of paralysis at Boston, in September, was followed by a more severe one at Washington, in November, and on the 22d of the month he died, at his room in the National Capitol. Mr. Wilson was an earnest advocate of total abstinence, his private character was blameless, and, generous to a fault, his entire property at the time of his death did not equal in amount his year's salary. In every position of trust and responsibility in which he was placed, he acquitted himself with honor. After imposing funeral ceremonies his remains were laid to rest beside those of his parents, his wife, and his soldier son, in the beautiful Dell Park Cemetery of Natick.





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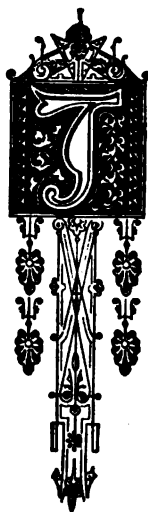


MOY VAM
JULIEN
YSAÏE

J. C. FREMONT.

From life, by L. H. Doremus.

JOHN C. FRÉMONT.



JOHN C. FRÉMONT, the "Pathfinder," was born at Savannah, Ga., January 21, 1813. His master passion for exploration and adventure was an inheritance from his father, a native of France, who, having married while making a tour of this country, decided to make it his home. Mr. Frémont taught French for a time, after his marriage, and then, accompanied by his wife, he resumed his travels through the southern and southwestern sections of the United States, in the course of which his eldest son, John Charles, the subject of this sketch, was born. Five years later, Mr. Frémont died, and his widow, with her three children, took up her abode at Charleston, S. C.

Young Frémont was an apt scholar, and at the age of fifteen was sufficiently advanced in his classical studies to enter the Junior class at Charleston College; but he did not complete his course, since his boyish passion for a beautiful West Indian lady caused him to neglect his studies to such an extent that the faculty ordered his expulsion. Being soon cured of his infatuation, he applied himself sedulously for some years, to private study, and became well qualified as a teacher in the scientific and mathematical branches. During the nullification troubles of 1833, the sloop-of-war *Natchez* was sent to Charleston for the pro-

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tection of the Custom House. After the difficulties were adjusted, she sailed for a cruise in South American waters, Frémont being appointed to accompany her as mathematical instructor. The cruise occupied about two years, at the end of which time the young professor returned to Charleston with so excellent a record that the officers of the college hastened to make some atonement for their former harsh action, by conferring upon him his degrees, as if he had regularly graduated. He shortly afterward went to Baltimore to compete for the position of Naval Professor of Mathematics, but after successfully passing his examination, and receiving the appointment, he resigned his office to devote his attention to the study of surveying and civil-engineering.

After due preparation, Frémont joined Captain Williams of the United States topographical corps, and was employed in the exploration of the mountain passes in the Carolinas and Tennessee, preparatory to the construction of a line of railway from Charleston to Cincinnati. After the suspension of this work in the fall of 1837, he assisted in a military reconnoissance of the Cherokee country in Georgia, soon to be wrested from its aboriginal owners. In 1838 and 1839 he took part in two expeditions under the command of Jean Nicholas Nicollet, whose assistant he was, which were sent out by the Government to explore the vast northwestern region which was at that time an almost unknown country. On the 7th of July, 1838, he was appointed second lieutenant in the topographical engineers. While residing at Washington, engaged in drawing up a report of these expeditions, he made the acquaintance of Jessie Benton, daughter of Thomas H. Benton, United States Senator from Missouri. A mutual attachment sprung up between the two young people — Jessie was only fifteen — but it was frowned upon by the senator, and the presumptuous lieutenant was temporarily gotten rid of by being sent away to make a

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survey of the Des Moines River. This work was completed in a remarkably short time, and Frémont hurried back to Washington. Finding that no impression could be made upon the hard heart of the father, the lovers decided to brook restraint no longer, and were married on the 19th of October, 1841, "suddenly and unpremeditatedly," as General Frémont himself very naively expressed it in his "Memoirs," forty-five years afterwards—in point of fact, a runaway match. The union, so romantically formed, proved to be a most fortunate one, and in after years the honored name of Jessie Frémont became as familiar to the American people as that of her distinguished husband.

Senator Benton yielded gracefully to the inevitable, and became reconciled to his son-in-law. It happened most fortunately that he was himself an enthusiast upon the subject of the exploration and development of our great Western possessions, and through his influence Lieutenant Frémont was placed in command of an expedition to the Rocky Mountains, which set out from the Missouri frontier in June, 1842, the guide being the famous Christopher, or Kit, Carson. In his conduct of this expedition, Frémont displayed rare talent and heroic courage, and his report to the Government was not only a highly valuable public document, but a work of literary merit as well, and was as full of incidents of thrilling interest as any romance. His explorations extended to the head-waters of the Colorado, and included an ascent of the highest peak of the Wind River range, in what is now the State of Wyoming. The peak has since received his name. His extensive additions to geographical knowledge gained for him flattering notices, both at home and abroad, and caused him to be styled the Humboldt of America.

No sooner had Frémont completed his report than he received orders for a second expedition, and in May, 1843, he set out with a larger company and a better equipment

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than before. Crossing the Rockies by the South Pass, as he had done on the previous journey, he entered Salt Lake valley in September. Three or four years later, the Mormon people, when forced to leave their Illinois settlement, availing themselves of Frémont's map, followed upon his trail, and took possession of the region they have since occupied. Following the valleys of the Columbia tributaries, he pushed on to Fort Vancouver in the present State of Washington, then claimed as a British possession. Although he had now fully carried out his instructions, he decided to return by a new and untried route, and to investigate the Great Basin between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada. Depending upon erroneous information, and without a guide, the command begun its homeward march in November, but it was overtaken in the wilderness by the storms of winter. Reduced to great extremity, Frémont decided that the only hope of safety was to cross the mountains, and attempt to reach the white settlements in California. The gallant company, with implicit faith in their intrepid leader, followed him through the snows of the Sierras, which the savages had declared to be impassible. The sufferings of the party were intense, and it was only after forty days' struggle with cold and starvation, having been forced to kill some of their horses for food, that the emaciated and half-crazed travellers reached Sutter's Fort, near the present city of Sacramento, in February, 1844.

Resuming his journey on the 24th of March, Frémont led his company up the beautiful valley of the San Joaquin, five hundred miles to the southward, and then, skirting the Great Basin, he arrived at Utah Lake, May 23, one of his men having been killed by the Indians. In eight months the "Pathfinder" had made a circuit of thirty-five hundred miles, and had never lost sight of snow. He arrived home in the following August, welcomed by the plaudits of an admiring people. In January, 1845, at the special instance

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of General Scott, he received the double brevet of lieutenant and captain.

Frémont's third and largest expedition, his last one under governmental authority, set out in the spring of 1845. His main object was to find the best overland communication with the Pacific, and he followed approximately with his sixty men the route now taken by the Central Pacific Railroad. California was at that time Mexican territory, and war was on the point of breaking out between Mexico and the United States, and although Frémont obtained permission from the authorities at Monterey to refit and continue his peaceful enterprise, the commanding general, under orders from Mexico, peremptorily ordered him to retire from the country in March, 1846. The Mexicans threatened violence, but did not venture to attack the Americans, who retired. Frémont had hardly crossed the boundary into Oregon, when he received orders from Washington to look after the interests of the United States in California. He retraced his steps, and upon arriving in the Sacramento Valley, he joined his little band with a body of American settlers who had been ordered to leave the country or become Mexican citizens, assuming command of the combined forces. A few conflicts with the Mexican troops followed, in which the latter were totally defeated. California was declared independent, and Frémont was chosen chief magistrate. When it became known that war had been declared, the Californians gladly surrendered their independence, lowered the "bear-flag," and raised the Stars and Stripes, Commodore J. D. Sloat of the Navy taking possession of the country in the name of the United States. Coöperating with the naval force under Commodore R. F. Stockton, Sloat's successor, who had received orders from Washington to establish a civil government, Frémont achieved the conquest of California, and was by the commodore, in January, 1847, appointed military commander and governor. He now held the rank

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of Lieutenant-Colonel in the United States Army, but a large portion of the forces under his command consisted of naval volunteers which he had raised at the request of Stockton.

But, in the meantime, Brigadier-General S. W. Kearney, after subjugating New Mexico, had arrived in California, too late to take any prominent part in the reduction of that province, and no doubt piqued at the brilliant success of his young subordinate. He wished to detach Frémont and his naval battalion from Commodore Stockton, between whom and himself a bitter feud existed, and soon claimed the supreme command, but Frémont declined to receive orders from him until his authority was confirmed by the War Department. That having been done, Kearney assumed the governorship, March 1, 1847, and Frémont was shortly afterward placed under arrest, charged with extravagance, maladministration and disobedience, and sent to Washington, where he arrived in September. He demanded an immediate court-martial, which was convened in November, and on January 31, 1848, was found guilty of disobedience and unmilitary conduct, and sentenced to dismissal from the service. President Polk, while approving the verdict, set aside the penalty, but Frémont, considering himself unjustly treated, declined to accept his clemency, and resigned his commission.

In October, 1848, he headed an independent exploring party, organized at his own expense, following along the upper waters of the Rio Grande in search of a railroad route to California, and again he experienced a terrible winter in the mountains, a third of his men being starved or frozen to death. After his arrival in the Golden State, he commenced mining operations upon the famous Mariposa estate which he had purchased from its Mexican owner two years previously. His title to this estate became the subject of an expensive lawsuit, which was finally decided in his favor in 1855. In

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the course of the year 1849, Mr. Frémont was joined by his family, and he became a citizen of California. A constitution was formed in September, and in December, the first legislature of the new State elected Mr. Frémont United States Senator. He proceeded at once to Washington, but owing to the bitter opposition of the pro-slavery party to California's free constitution, it was not until the 9th of September, 1850, that the State was admitted to the Union. Its senators took their seats on the following day, Mr. Frémont drawing the short term which expired in March, 1851. His actual service in the Senate lasted only three weeks, as sickness prevented him from attending the winter session. During the year 1850, he was the recipient of a gold medal from the King of Prussia and one from the Royal Geographical Society of London, in acknowledgment of his eminent services to his country, and to the scientific world.

Mr. Frémont now spent a year in California, and another in Europe, after which he returned to make his fifth and last transcontinental exploration. Setting out in August, 1853, he crossed the Rockies in the present State of Colorado. When the party reached the Mormon settlements in Southern Utah early in February, 1854, they had subsisted for fifty days on horse flesh. During his temporary residence in New York, in 1855, Mr. Frémont's name began to be mentioned in connection with the presidential nomination of the new Republican party, and that nomination he received in June, 1856. An exciting canvass ensued in which the Republicans manifested unbounded enthusiasm for their candidate, who secured the votes of eleven out of the sixteen free States. He was the last candidate for the presidency who was, or who ever will be, defeated by the votes of slaveholders. His successful Democratic competitor was James Buchanan.

Mr. Frémont made a second visit to Europe in 1860, and was there when the War of the Rebellion broke out. He at once proceeded to use his personal means and credit for the pur-

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chase of munitions of war for the Government, and in so doing he was brought into competition with accredited rebel agents. While in London he learned that he had been commissioned Major-General, and hastening home, was placed in command of the Department of the West, with his headquarters at St. Louis. The disunion element in Missouri being very defiant, General Frémont assumed control of the Civil Government, and on August 31, 1861, he issued his famous proclamation placing the State under martial law, and emancipating the slaves of rebels in arms. President Lincoln, without questioning Frémont's right to issue this proclamation, saw fit to annul the emancipation clause. In September, General Frémont put his troops in motion southward, with the intention of driving the rebels out of Missouri, and then marching on to New Orleans; but he was hampered in his movements by the authorities at Washington, who listened too willingly to false reports from rebel sympathizers, who charged Frémont with incapacity and extravagance. He was, however, making rapid headway against the enemy, and his body-guard under Major Zagonyi had just routed a body of insurgents more than ten times their number, when, on the 2d of November, he was superseded by General Hunter.

In the ensuing spring, that of 1862, he was placed in command of the Mountain Department, comprising parts of Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, and on the 6th of June defeated a superior rebel force at Cross Keys in the Shenandoah Valley. Shortly afterward his corps was included in the Army of Virginia, commanded by General Pope, and deeming it inconsistent with his dignity to serve under one who had formerly been his subordinate, and had disobeyed his orders, he was relieved, at his own request, and so ended his military career.

He was nominated for the presidency in 1864, by a convention of Republicans opposed to Mr. Lincoln. He withdrew his name, but refused to accept either office or patronage

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for so doing. For the remaining years of his life he was a private citizen, with the exception of the four years, from 1878 to 1882, when he was Governor of Arizona. His connection with Pacific railroads proved disastrous to his fortune ; not only were the millions which the Mariposa mines had produced for him swept away, but by becoming involved in the law-suits brought against these roads by foreign bondholders, he was subjected to infinite annoyance and was even charged with complicity with frauds, for which not the faintest vestige of blame now attaches to his memory. One volume of his *Memoirs* was published in 1886, but the work was never brought to completion. General Frémont died in New York City July 13, 1890, in his seventy-eighth year, only a few months after the Government had done him the tardy justice of placing his name upon the retired army list.





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STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.

From a painting in the Representatives' Hall at the Illinois
State Capitol, Springfield.



STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.



ON the 23d of April, 1813, in the town of Brandon, on the western slope of the green hills of Vermont, was born a boy who was destined to a brilliant career as a politician, a career alike remarkable for its rapid progress and its untimely close. He was of Puritan ancestry, the son of a physician, and his name was Stephen Arnold Douglas. His father dying when Stephen was but a few months old, his youthful training devolved upon the mother, who lived to witness the successes of her son, and to see him laid in the tomb. He was provided with a good common school education, and up to his fifteenth year was engaged in ordinary farm work. He then learned, or attempted to learn, the cabinet-maker's trade, but this occupation was so detrimental to his health, that after about a year and a half he abandoned it. Having spent another year in advanced studies at Brandon Academy, he left Vermont to accompany his mother and step-father to Canandaigua, N. Y., at which place he attended an academy and read law until he was twenty.

In 1833 he set out with about a hundred dollars in his pocket, to seek his fortune in the West. A fit of sickness so reduced his little store, that upon arriving at Winchester, Ill., he had less than half a dollar remaining. Chance directed his steps to a country vendue, at which the auctioneer,

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having been suddenly left without a clerk, ventured to offer the position to the intelligent if somewhat shabby appearing stranger. It was, of course, joyfully accepted by Mr. Douglas, who earned six dollars for his three days' work, and what was of far more importance, he gained the goodwill and confidence of the people, so that they organized a school, of which he was appointed master. During the few months in which he was engaged in teaching, he continued his law studies, and occasionally pleaded a petty case in court, and in the following year he was admitted to the bar and opened an office in Jacksonville.

In less than a year from the time at which he began practice, Mr. Douglas was appointed Attorney-General of Illinois, and from that time until his death, he was almost uninterruptedly in the public service. He was elected to the Legislature, but resigned his seat in 1837 to accept from President Van Buren the position of Register of the Land Office at Springfield, and this position was in its turn resigned a year later, when he contested a seat in Congress. He had been the youngest member of the Legislature, and it was only in the interval between his nomination for congressional honors and his defeat by only five votes, that he attained the constitutional age of twenty-five which is required of representatives. Enthusiastic in his support of the principles of the Democratic party, he aided in carrying his State for Van Buren in 1840, and was himself chosen as one of the five electors of Illinois. In December of the same year, he was made Secretary of State of Illinois, but retained that office only until the following February, when he became a judge of the Supreme Court of the State, and in 1843 he resigned the judgeship to take his seat as a member of the National House of Representatives.

Mr. Douglas was twice reelected. He quickly became a recognized leader on the Democratic side, and gave his support to all the measures which were promoted by that party ;

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especially the annexation of Texas, which was successfully accomplished, and the settlement of the Oregon boundary at $54^{\circ} 40'$ which was not. He likewise sustained President Polk's administration in the war with Mexico which it forced upon the country. Although elected to the thirtieth Congress in 1846, he did not take his seat in the Lower House, having been in the meantime chosen United States Senator. Swiftly, and without hindrance, he had risen from the obscurity of his rural home to this proud eminence, before reaching his thirty-fourth year. Neither wealth nor position was his by inheritance, yet both came to him through the energetic use of his native gifts. Open, frank and generous, he wielded an influence over the masses which has been rarely, if ever, equalled; logical and self-confident, rather than eloquent, endowed with more common sense than learning, he was a match for the ablest debaters. He was slightly under the average height, though stoutly built, and this circumstance, in connection with his great popularity, gained for him the sobriquet of the "Little Giant." In April, 1847, a month after he had entered the Senate, Mr. Douglas was married to a North Carolina lady, who died in 1853.

The State of Illinois is deeply indebted to Senator Douglas, who by obtaining government grants for railroads, and in every other possible way, was tireless in his endeavors to advance her prosperity. He opposed the Wilmot Proviso, but favored the extension of the boundary line between free and slave territory, $36^{\circ} 30'$, westward to the Pacific. The compromise measures of 1850 received his support, as they did that of many another seeker for votes, irrespective of party; for Mr. Douglas, having attained all but the highest position, was hard hit by the presidential fever. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1852. In the same year his name was presented to the Democratic National Convention, but Mr. Pierce unexpectedly took the prize for which he longed.

The position of Senator Douglas on the slavery question

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differed materially from that of the pro-slavery extremists, and he became the leader of that wing of the Democratic party which held, with him, that the people of the Territories had the right to decide whether slavery should or should not exist within their borders. This was his famous doctrine of "Popular Sovereignty," or as it was sometimes sneeringly termed, "Squatter Sovereignty," and its apparent justice gained for it considerable favor at the North. The doctrine was embodied in the Kansas-Nebraska Bill in 1854, which was reported by Mr. Douglas, as Chairman of the Committee on Territories. Much of the indignation which the measure aroused at the North was vented upon its author; he was hung in effigy in various places, and even in his own Illinois where he had been almost idolized for twenty years, he experienced a serious loss of popularity. In Chicago he was denied a hearing, and narrowly escaped personal injury. But while the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was so obnoxious to the majority in the free States, it was regarded at the South as only a half-way measure at best, and what little gratitude they might feel toward Mr. Douglas in that his bill authorized the territorial settlers to foster slavery, was forgotten when they considered that it also authorized them to prohibit it, should they see fit.

On the 9th of November, 1857, a State Constitution was adopted by a convention which had been in session for about two months at Lecompton, Kan. The people of the territory were to be allowed to choose whether they would have this constitution "with slavery" or "without slavery," but were not permitted to reject it entirely, and in any case, the slaves already in Kansas were not to be interfered with. President Buchanan in his message to the opening session of the thirty-fifth Congress, urged the admission of Kansas under this constitution, but Mr. Douglas dissented, almost alone among the senators of his party, claiming that the principle of "popular sovereignty" required that the consti-

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tution should be submitted to the people for acceptance or rejection. On December 21, a vote was taken in Kansas upon acceptance "with or without slavery," and the free State men declining to take part in the farce, the constitution with slavery was accepted by a very large majority. On January 4, 1858, a vote was taken by order of the Territorial Legislature, when the pro-slavery party refusing in their turn to go to the polls, the constitution was almost unanimously rejected. On the 2d of February, President Buchanan, ignoring the latter action, transmitted the Lecompton Constitution to Congress, with a message advising the admission of Kansas as a slave State. The Committee on Territories, to whom the matter was referred, reported in favor of admission, but Senator Douglas presented a minority report, and upon the ground that it deprived the people of Kansas of the power of regulating their domestic institutions, he combated the Lecompton constitution at every stage of the debate, which lasted until April 30, when it was decided to again submit the constitution to a popular vote, by which it was finally rejected.

The famous canvass for the Illinois senatorship in 1858, has been referred to in our sketch of Abraham Lincoln. The result was favorable to Mr. Douglas, who was a third time elected to the Senate. Shortly after the opening of Congress in December, however, he was made to feel the resentment of the administration, which was entirely under the control of the slaveholders, by being displaced from the chairmanship of the Committee on Territories. He had a second time failed to secure the presidential nomination in 1856, but he was now the first choice of the Northern wing of his party, and was received with great consideration in an extended tour through the country. In a letter defining his position, written in the summer of 1859, Mr. Douglas declared it to be his intention to decline any nomination, upon a platform which should favor the revival of the African slave-

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trade, or affirm the doctrine that Congress possessed the right to establish slavery in the Territories. He took a prominent part in the bitter congressional debates on slavery in the early part of the year 1860.

The Democratic National Convention met at Charleston, April 23, 1860. The Southern politicians had long before determined, not only to oppose Mr. Douglas, but to disrupt the party, that there might be no doubt of the choice of a Republican president, giving them their desired pretext for rebellion. A week was consumed in preliminary action, and then the majority of the Southern delegates seceded. A large majority of the remaining members were supporters of Mr. Douglas, but not the necessary two-thirds, and after fifty-seven ballots, the convention adjourned, to meet at Baltimore in June. The seceders also adjourned without making a nomination. Reassembling on June 18, the convention, after another secession had taken place, nominated Mr. Douglas for President. The malcontents nominated John C. Breckinridge, then Vice-president of the United States, but soon to be guilty of treason to his country.

Mr. Douglas immediately took the stump, and throughout the campaign he labored with ceaseless energy, totally regardless of the limitations of his physical strength, his watchword being, *Non-intervention by Congress with slavery in the Territories*. In serving his party, he was no more scrupulous than the average politician, and his desire to be president was fatally strong, and yet he nobly dared to declare himself, above all, a patriot. Asked if Mr. Lincoln's election would justify the South in secession, he replied that if Lincoln should be elected, he, "as his firmest and strongest irreconcilable opponent," would sustain him in the exercise of every constitutional function; and this promise, made in the flush of anticipated success, was faithfully kept in the agony and humiliation of defeat. After the October elections had surely foreshadowed the victory of his opponent, he continued to

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address audiences nightly, and in the cities of the South he urged his hearers to stand by the Union in any event.

His defeat was overwhelming. Only one State, Missouri, gave him its entire electoral vote, and he received in all only twelve out of a total of three hundred and three votes. But in spite of his disappointment, he at once set to work to stem the rising tide of disunion, and the crowning glory of his life was his magnanimity in coming to the support of his successful rival in the hour of his country's danger. After the close of the extra session of the Senate in March, 1861, he returned to his Illinois home to rally his countrymen in defence of the Union. On the 25th of April he addressed the Illinois Legislature, upon the special request of the members of that body, although the Republicans were largely in the majority. A month later, his strength, which had been during the excitement of the campaign, largely sustained by stimulants, gave way under the intense strain, and on the 3d of June, 1861, in the city of Chicago, he died, only forty-eight years old, his last coherent words expressing his love for his country and his detestation of her enemies. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1856, survived him.





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D. D. PORTER.

From a portrait by Carl J. Becker painted in 1886, for presentation to the Government by the admiral's family.

DAVID D. PORTER.



HE distinguished naval commander, David Dixon Porter, inherited the abilities and the virtues of a long line of seafaring ancestry. He was the great-grandson of a captain in the merchant marine of colonial days, grandson of an officer of the Revolutionary navy, and son of the famous commodore who captured the first British warship in the War of 1812. He was born at Chester, Pa., June 8, 1813, while his father was scouring the Pacific in the *Essex*.

At the age of eleven he entered the Columbian University at Washington, D. C., remaining there for a brief period only, after which he sailed on his first voyage, with his father, in the *John Adams*, sent to chastise the pirates which infested the sea in the neighborhood of the West Indies. The senior Porter resigned his commission in 1826, in consequence of having been court-martialled for an excess of zeal in resenting an insult from the Spanish authorities at Porto Rico. Shortly afterward, father and son offered their swords to the young Mexican Republic, the former receiving a high commission, the latter that of midshipman. Some three years were spent in this service, and the young man was for a time a prisoner in the hands of the Spaniards at Havana. In 1829, Commodore Porter entered the diplomatic service of his country, and his son, on the 2d of February in that year,

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obtained his midshipman's warrant in the United States navy, in which he was to serve, with spotless honor, for sixty-two years.

A series of uneventful Mediterranean cruises occupied his time for the ensuing six years, and in July, 1835, he became passed midshipman. His promotion to the rank of lieutenant took place February 27, 1841, he having been for several years previously employed in the Coast Survey, to which branch of the service he again returned in 1845 after another tour of duty at sea in the Mediterranean and South Atlantic. In 1846 he was stationed at the naval observatory, and in the same year he was employed by the state department in a special mission to Hayti and San Domingo. Upon returning to the United States he found that war had broken out with Mexico, and he at once made application for active service. He was ordered to the Gulf in charge of recruits, and reported to Commodore Perry as executive officer of the *Spitfire*, being subsequently appointed her commander for his heroism. He was under fire at the bombardment of Vera Cruz in March, 1847, and on the 16th of June he commanded a detachment which captured Fort Iturbide and the city of Tobasco. He remained on the Gulf coast throughout the war, taking part in every engagement, and displaying marked talent as a leader, while his great strength and his personal bravery made him an antagonist to be feared.

After the close of the war he again engaged in the coast survey, and in 1849 he was granted leave of absence. For the next four years he held command of a California mail steamer, and at the expiration of his furlough he was placed in charge of the navy yard at Portsmouth, N. H. In April, 1860, after consultation with President Lincoln he took command of the *Powhattan*, carried reënforcements to Fort Pickens, besieged by Bragg, and saved it to the Union. He then took part in the blockade of the mouths of the Mississippi, and the rebel cruiser *Sumter* having succeeded in

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getting to sea, he gave chase in the *Powhattan*, following the enemy among the West India Islands for upwards of ten thousand miles, but unfortunately he was unable to capture him. He was shortly afterward raised to the rank of commander. He was again consulted by the navy department with reference to the expedition against New Orleans. The command was offered to him, and modestly declined, upon the ground that neither his rank nor his previous achievements entitled him to such distinction; but at his request it was conferred upon Captain Farragut, who was, it will be remembered, his brother by adoption.

He was made second in command of the expedition which was destined to render famous the names of Farragut and Porter. To his especial charge was entrusted the fleet of mortar-boats which for over a hundred and forty-four hours poured an incessant fire into Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and to him on the 28th of April, four days after Farragut had passed by them to capture the Crescent City, they were surrendered. His victory was appropriately recognized by the navy department. The bombardment of Vicksburg, on June 28, in which he participated, was productive of no substantial results. Porter did not take his mortar-boats above the city with Farragut's fleet, but remained a few miles below, and totally routed a land force of rebels who attempted to surprise and capture his flotilla on the 1st of July. In October he was appointed to the command of the Mississippi squadron with the local rank of Acting Rear-Admiral, and during the closing months of the year 1862 he coöperated with General Sherman on the Mississippi and the Yazoo, in his unsuccessful attack upon Vicksburg. Sherman being superseded by McClernand, Porter accompanied the latter up the Arkansas River, and on the 11th of January, 1863, assisted in the capture of Arkansas Post, with five thousand prisoners. Again he proved himself a hero, leading the naval attack in person, and though General McClernand, in a spirit

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of jealousy, failed to give him due credit, Congress honored him by a vote of thanks.

At the close of January, Porter returned to the vicinity of Vicksburg, where General Grant was now in command. In the month of March he led an expedition into a weird and gloomy tangle of bayous in a vain attempt to pass above the rebel batteries at Haine's Bluff on the Yazoo, in order to enable General Grant to gain a position in the rear of Vicksburg. The dense vegetation, together with the obstructions placed in the way by the enemy, finally compelled him to relinquish the enterprise. Grant now formed his plans for attacking Vicksburg from the south, for which he was at the time severely criticised, even by his own subordinates. But the ever courageous and energetic Porter assured the general of his support, and the two commanders were in perfect accord. The army was moved down the western side of the river, and on the 16th of April the gunboats again ran the gauntlet of the batteries of Vicksburg, Porter in the *Benton*, leading the way as he always did when in action. Grand Gulf was bombarded on the 29th, and occupied by Porter four days later. His movements were rapid and effective. Dropping down the Mississippi, he ascended the Red River and captured Alexandria, and in little more than a week he was once more above Vicksburg and in possession of Haine's Bluff on the Yazoo, which now became the Northern limit of Grant's lines of investment, and his base of supplies. Vicksburg, the Gibraltar of the Mississippi, was surrendered to General Grant, July 4, 1863, and for his invaluable aid in bringing about this memorable success of the Federal arms, Porter was commissioned a Rear-Admiral, and again received the thanks of Congress.

During the remainder of the year 1863, Admiral Porter was engaged in keeping the Mississippi clear, and his fleet did effective work in the unfortunate Red River expedition in March and April, 1864. Later in the year he was placed in

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command of the North Atlantic Squadron. After the closing of Mobile harbor by Farragut, the only remaining port of consequence held by the rebels was Wilmington, N. C., and in December, 1864, a combined military and naval force was sent to reduce Fort Fisher, at the mouth of the Cape Fear River, fifteen miles below that city. General Butler commanded the land forces, and Admiral Porter the fleet of sixty-five vessels. A bombardment of an hour and a quarter, on the 24th, by the guns of the latter so weakened the enemy's works, in the opinion of Admiral Porter, that they would readily have yielded to a determined assault; but General Butler was less daring, or at least less confident of success than the intrepid admiral, and he withdrew his army to Hampton Roads without striking a blow. Porter, much chagrined at the non-success of the enterprise, was eager to make a second attempt, and urged the Government to send troops at once to coöperate with his fleet. Orders to that effect having been given, he rapidly refitted at Beaufort, and returned to the scene of action. The military force was somewhat augmented, and placed in command of General Terry. On the 13th and 14th of January, 1865, Porter bombarded the fort, until it was "reduced to a pulp" as his report says, and on the 15th, after one of the most desperate hand-to-hand conflicts of the war, Fort Fisher surrendered. The last port through which foreign assistance could reach the tottering "confederacy" was thus closed, and Porter received, for the fourth time, a well-merited vote of thanks.

After the capture of Richmond, Admiral Porter escorted President Lincoln to that city in his flagship, the *Malvern*. Hostilities were now at an end, and in September, 1865, Porter was appointed superintendent of the Naval Academy, which under his régime reached a high state of proficiency, and became the leading institution, of its kind, in the world. He held the position for four years, and during the remainder of his life he was engaged in special duty on land,

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being retained upon the active list to the last. In the comparative leisure of his later years, he indulged his artistic and literary tastes, and published a life of his father, and a naval history of the Rebellion, beside several novels and numerous magazine articles. He was raised to the rank of Vice-Admiral in July, 1866, and that of Admiral in August, 1870, upon the death of David G. Farragut, his only predecessor in that grade in the American navy. He died suddenly at his residence in Washington, February 13, 1891, only one day before his equal in rank in the army, General W. T. Sherman, and was buried at Arlington with the highest military honors.





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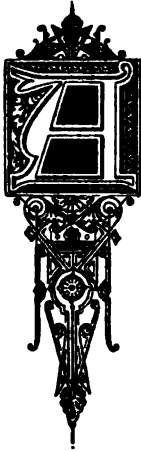


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HENRY WARD BEECHER.

From life.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.



AMERICA'S most famous pulpit orator, Henry Ward Beecher, was born June 14, 1813, at Litchfield, Conn., in the third year of the pastorate of his father, Dr. Lyman Beecher. He was deprived of a mother's care at the age of three years, but her place was worthily filled by the step-mother whom he ever regarded with tender affection. The vein of humor which characterized Dr. Beecher was reproduced and intensified in the fun-loving boy Henry. Few of the pleasures with which the children of the present day are familiar were known to the large family of the poorly paid Connecticut pastor, yet health and contentment brought happiness to the domestic circle. In the village school, Henry showed himself to be no great lover of books, and he did not make satisfactory progress in his studies, when at the age of ten he was sent to a private school in the neighboring town of Bethlehem. A year later he was placed under the care of an elder sister who carried on a school for girls at Hartford, but his incorrigible fondness for fun and mischief caused him to be sent back to Litchfield. No one could have predicted for such a lad the brilliant future which lay before him.

He was nearly thirteen years of age when his father removed to Boston in 1826; and the verdant country lad soon fell in with the ways of his city playmates. He entered the Latin School, but found more delight in perusing tales of the sea than in conning his Cæsar and Virgil. He was

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so strongly attracted toward the life of a sailor, that it was at length determined to remove him from the temptations of city life, and he was accordingly placed at the Mount Pleasant Institute at Amherst, Mass., where he remained for three years, in the course of which he united with his father's church, gave up all thoughts of a seafaring life, and decided to adopt the clerical profession. He entered Amherst College in 1830, and graduated in 1834. During his college days he adopted the anti-slavery sentiments which he afterward upheld so zealously, and began to speak in public, his first lecture being delivered at Brattleboro, Vt., and netting him the sum of ten dollars. He also contributed to his own support by teaching at Hopkinton and other Massachusetts towns, and occasionally by preaching.

Mr. Beecher pursued his theological studies under his father, who had become president of the Lane Seminary, in 1832, and for three years he was again an inmate of his father's home at Cincinnati. During the pro-slavery riots in that city in 1836, Mr. Beecher was sworn as a special constable. Being observed upon one occasion, in the act of running bullets in a mold, he was asked what he meant to do with them, when he grimly replied, "To kill men." Subsequent manifestations of this same militant spirit will be met with later in his life, when his righteous indignation was aroused by injustice and wrong. In the spring of 1837, he graduated from Lane Theological Seminary, read his "trial lecture," and was licensed to preach. He soon received a call to become pastor of the little Presbyterian church at Lawrenceburg, Ind. He now made a hurried trip to New England and on August 3, 1837, he was married to Eunice White Bullard of West Sutton, Mass. The young couple began life with few comforts and no luxuries, but with hearts full of present happiness and of confidence for the future. Mr. Beecher was his own sexton, and his meagre stipend was augmented by a small allowance from the Home Missionary

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Society. He was as yet only a licentiate, and when he sought ordination, he encountered the opposition of the Old School Presbyterians, who very naturally distrusted the orthodoxy of the son, when they regarded the father as an arch-heretic. The upshot of the matter was, that the Lawrenceburg church declared itself independent, and Mr. Beecher was ordained by the New School faction.

He remained in his first pastorate a little less than two years, preaching his farewell sermon July 28, 1839. He had accepted an invitation to become first pastor of the newly formed Second Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, where he labored with constantly increasing success for eight years. He now began to come into prominence by his identification with various secular reformatory movements, notably with that for the abolition of slavery, and he likewise became interested in agriculture, spending a portion of his leisure time in the management of his garden. For some years he was editor of the *Indiana Farmer and Gardener*. His fame as a preacher and lecturer spread rapidly, and at length it reached the East, where his father's name had been a tower of strength. Various efforts were made to induce him to enter a more extended field, but they met with no favorable response from him, until the formation of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Brooklyn, in June, 1847, the pastorate of which he decided, after much hesitation, to accept.

Mr. Beecher preached his first sermon in Brooklyn, October 10, 1847, and a month later he was formally installed in the pastorate which terminated only at his death, more than thirty-nine years afterward. The liberality of his religious views, and the freedom with which he denounced slavery and all sorts of moral and political corruption, alarmed some of his more conservative hearers, who warned him that he would ruin both himself and his church; but such warnings only incited him to keep on in his chosen course. Those who

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did not like his sentiments, need not hire pews in his church. But the pews continued to be filled and the church increased rapidly. The building which they occupied was destroyed by fire in January, 1849. A year later the well-known spacious, though unassuming edifice was dedicated which was destined to become the most celebrated of American churches. Except in rare cases of sickness, or temporary absence from the country, Mr. Beecher was seldom away from his pulpit on Sunday. His congregation increased until they filled every available seat and standing place, and throngs were often turned away. No other preacher of this country has had such a powerful hold upon his audiences as Henry Ward Beecher.

In 1850 he made his first visit to Europe, and though constrained to declare that "the only pleasant thing about going to sea was the going ashore," he keenly enjoyed his two months' sojourn among the churches, the castles, the ruins and the historical monuments of the Old World. In 1854 he purchased a farm of nearly a hundred acres at Lenox, Mass. For three or four years he made it his summer home, when, on account of the distance from New York, it was disposed of. An earnest preacher of the gospel of peace, he fully realized that there are times when lasting peace can only be secured by conflict with its disturbers. Consequently, when the lawless hordes of Missouri slaveholders invaded Kansas, he counted it no derogation of his sacred office to counsel armed resistance on the part of the settlers, and he actively assisted the Emigrant Aid Society in their work of forwarding weapons of defence to the free State men. A collection was taken up in his church to raise funds wherewith to purchase Sharpe's rifles, and a quantity of these having found their way into Kansas in boxes labelled "Bibles," the rifles became widely known as "Beecher's bibles." In the presidential campaign of 1856, he made many addresses in behalf of John C. Frémont; but he declined to

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consider a proposition to go to Congress, unless, as he wittily suggested, it should come from the American Board of Missions. In 1859 he bought his Peekskill estate which in time brought additional fame to its owner as an amateur agriculturalist. Here, in 1878, was erected his sumptuous country seat, "Boscobel." Academical honors had no more attraction for Mr. Beecher than political preferment, and in 1860 he refused the title of D.D. proffered him by Amherst College.

Mr. Beecher strongly advocated the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency. When traitors insulted the flag at Sumter, and plunged the nation into war, he was lecturing in Cincinnati. Hurrying home, he was met by his first-born son with the words "Father, may I enlist?" "If you don't, I will disown you," said the patriotic divine, and he looked to it that the young man was provided with proper equipments. He was active in procuring recruits and in caring for their welfare, and his church became a veritable magazine of military and hospital stores. One entire regiment, the 67th New York, was raised and equipped through his instrumentality. For many years he had been a contributor to the *Independent*, and in December, 1861, he assumed the editorship. In the conduct of this journal he evinced the same desire to make his fellow-men better and happier, and the same ardent devotion to his country, as he did in the pulpit or upon the rostrum.

In June, 1863, Mr. Beecher felt compelled to seek relief for his overtasked energies in a second voyage to Europe. The management of the *Independent* was entrusted to Theodore Tilton, the associate editor, and through the favor of Mr. Beecher, Tilton eventually became editor-in-chief. When Mr. Beecher sailed from the United States, the cause of the Union appeared to be in a desperate strait; when he reached England, he found sympathy with the rebels openly expressed; but in Paris, he received the glad tidings of Vicksburg and Gettysburg. In an interview with Leopold,

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King of Belgium, he ventured the opinion that the crater of Vesuvius was no less perilous a position than the throne of Mexico, and the accuracy of his judgment was made manifest in the mournful fate of Carlotta, King Leopold's daughter, who lost husband and reason through the attempt to establish that throne in opposition to the will of the people. It was not his intention to appear before an English audience, but after his return from the Continent in October, he determined to do so, and, if possible, to correct the erroneous ideas of the British public in regard to the struggle in America. He addressed five great gatherings in Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, and at Exeter Hall in London; and in every instance he was confronted by a violent mob, which strove to prevent him from being heard; but the great preacher's coolness and determination overcame all obstacles, and he was largely influential in turning the current of English opinion in favor of the North.

On the 8th of April, 1865, Mr. Beecher sailed in the *Arago* for Charleston, S. C., to deliver the address at the raising of the old flag over the remains of Fort Sumter. This impressive ceremony took place on the 14th, just four years from the day upon which Major Anderson evacuated the fort. In words of impassioned eloquence, Mr. Beecher voiced the universal exultation over the defeat of the rebellious Southerners, with no touch of vindictive feeling toward the misguided men who had essayed in vain to destroy the Union. "Rebellion has perished, but there flies the same flag that was insulted." But, alas! the echo of the guns that saluted the restored Stars and Stripes had hardly died away before the hand of the assassin turned a nation's joy into grief. Upon arriving at Hilton Head on the return voyage, Mr. Beecher learned the sad news of President Lincoln's death.

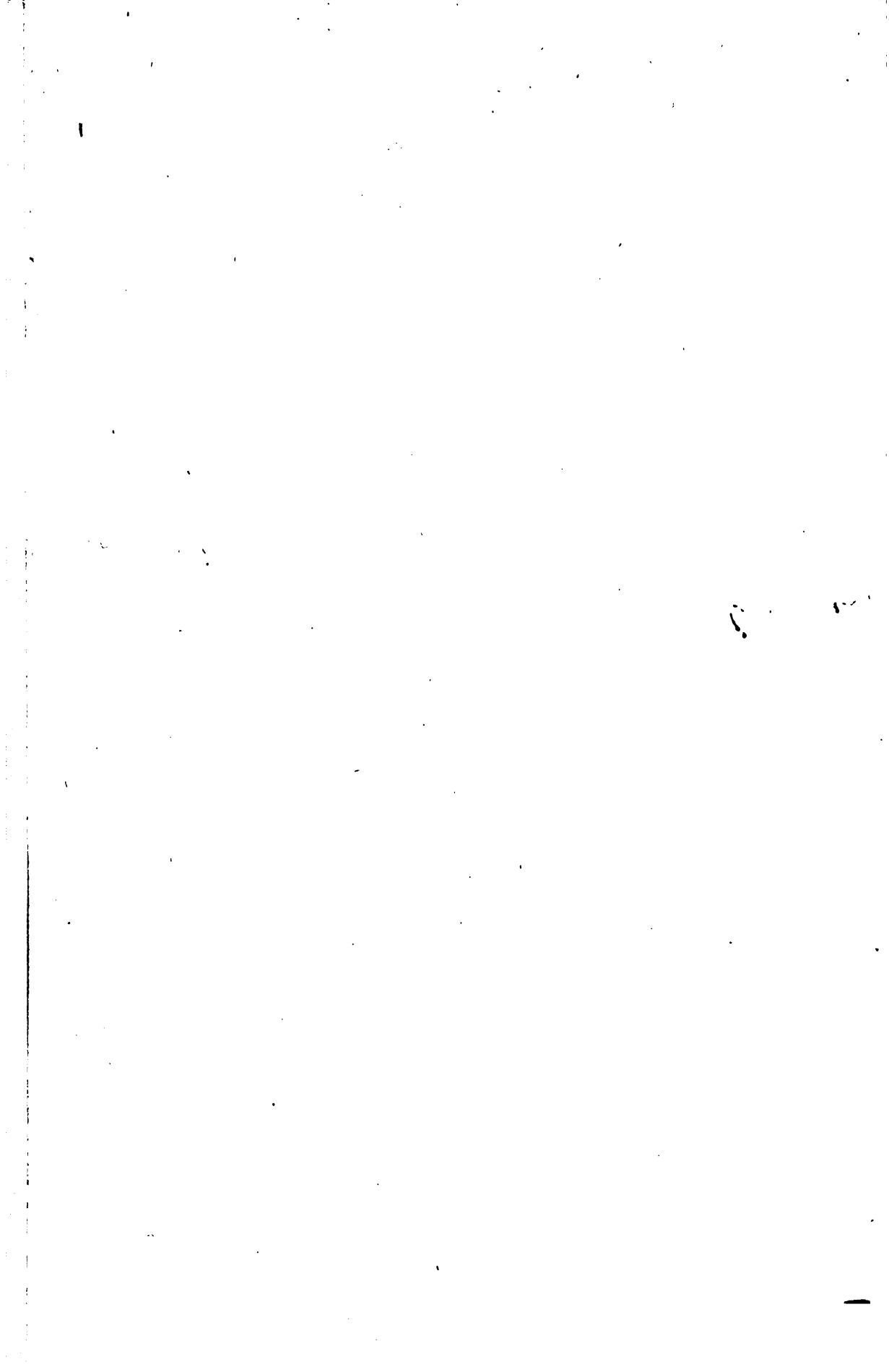
Mr. Beecher's views upon reconstruction coincided more nearly with those of President Johnson than with those of

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the congressional majority, and in consequence of this, an estrangement took place between him and the management of the *Independent*, which resulted in his final withdrawal from all connection with that paper. He thereby incurred the enmity of Theodore Tilton, who, conspiring with certain other enemies of Mr. Beecher, charged him with a heinous crime. In a civil suit which grew out of this distressing "scandal" the jury disagreed, nine, however, being in favor of Mr. Beecher; but an ecclesiastical trial completely vindicated his good name. His church stood loyally by him in his trouble, raising his salary, for the "trial year," to one hundred thousand dollars.

In 1884, Mr. Beecher, who had acted with the Republican party ever since its organization, declared in favor of Mr. Cleveland, the Democratic nominee. On the 19th of June, 1886, he sailed a third time for England, being accompanied down New York harbor by three thousand of his admirers. His reception in Great Britain was extremely cordial, in marked contrast to that accorded him upon his previous visit, nearly a quarter of a century before. On the 5th of July he was entertained at dinner by the Lord Mayor of London. He was absent four months, during which time he preached seventeen times, made nine addresses, and delivered fifty-eight lectures. Upon his return to America, he declined a reception by the City Council of Brooklyn, and resumed his pastoral duties, which he was discharging with his accustomed energy when a stroke of apoplexy caused his death, after a very brief illness, on the 8th of March, 1887. His income from his lectures and writings and from other sources had been large, and he left a considerable fortune to his heirs. From 1870 to 1881 he was editor of the *Christian Union*. He wrote one romance, and many of his contributions to periodicals were published in book form. He also published one volume of a "Life of Christ," and was about to resume work upon it at the time of his death.

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